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Related Apparatus

5 **TRANSMITTAL LETTER AND CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

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8 From: Lance R. Sadler (Tel. 509-324-9256; Fax 509-323-8979)
9 Lee & Hayes, PLLC
421 W. Riverside Avenue, Suite 500
10 Spokane, WA 99201

11 The following enumerated items accompany this transmittal letter and are being submitted for the
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- 12 1. Specification-title page, plus 50 pages, including 41 claims and Abstract
13 2. Transmittal letter including Certificate of Express Mailing
14 3. 11 Sheets Formal Drawings (Figs. 1-15)
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22 By: Dana L. Calhoun
Dana L. Calhoun

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION FOR LETTERS PATENT

Methods Of Factoring Operating System Functions, Methods Of Converting
Operating Systems, and Related Apparatus

Inventor(s):

Galen C. Hunt

Gerald Cermak

Robert J. Stets

ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NO. MS1-354US

1 **TECHNICAL FIELD**

2 This invention relates to methods of factoring operating system functions,
3 to methods of converting operating systems from non-object-oriented formats into
4 object-oriented formats, and to related apparatus.

5

6 **BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

7 Operating systems typically include large numbers of callable functions
8 that are structured to support operation on a single host machine. When an
9 application executes on the single host machine, it interacts with the operating
10 system by making one or more calls to the operating system's functions.

11 Although this method of communicating with an operating system has been
12 adequate, it has certain shortcomings. One such shortcoming relates to the
13 increasing use of distributed computing, in which different computers are
14 programmed to work in concert on a particular task. Specifically, operating
15 system function libraries can severely limit the ability to perform distributed
16 computing.

17 Fig. 1 illustrates the use of functions in prior art operating systems. Fig. 1
18 shows a system 20 that includes an operating system 22 and an application 24
19 executing in conjunction with the operating system 22. In operation, the
20 application 24 makes calls directly into the operating system when, for example, it
21 wants to create or use an operating system resource. As an example, if an
22 application wants to create a file, it might call a "CreateFile" function at 26 to
23 create the file. Responsive to this call, the operating system returns a "handle" 28.
24 A "handle" is an arbitrary identifier, coined by the operating system to identify a
25 resource that is controlled by the operating system. In this example, the

1 application uses handle 28 to identify the newly created file resource any time it
2 makes subsequent calls to the operating system to manipulate the file resource.
3 For example, if the application wants to read the file associated with handle 28, it
4 uses the handle when it makes a “ReadFile” call, e.g. “ReadFile (handle)”.
5 Similarly, if the application wants to write to the file resource it uses handle 28
6 when it makes a “WriteFile” call, e.g. “WriteFile (handle)”.

7 One problem associated with using a handle as specified above is that the
8 particular handle that is returned to an application by the operating system is only
9 valid for the process in which it is being used. That is, without special processing
10 the handle has no meaning outside of its current process, e.g. in another process on
11 a common or different machine. Hence, the handle cannot be used across process
12 or machine boundaries. This makes computing in a distributed computing system
13 impossible because, by definition, distributed computing takes place across
14 process and machine boundaries. Thus, current operating systems lack the ability
15 to name and manipulate operating system resources on remote machines.

16 Another problem with traditional operating system function libraries is that
17 individual functions cannot generally be modified without jeopardizing the
18 operation of older versions of applications that might depend on the particular
19 characteristics of the individual functions. Thus, when an operating system is
20 upgraded it typically maintains all of the older functions so that older applications
21 can still use the operating system.

22 In prior art operating systems, a function library essentially defines a
23 protocol for communicating with an operating system. When operating systems
24 are upgraded, the list of functions that it provides typically changes. Specifically,
25 functions can be added, removed, or changed. This changes the protocol that is

1 used between an application and an operating system. As soon as the protocol is
2 changed, the chances that an application will attempt to use a protocol that is not
3 understood by the operating system, and vice versa increase.

4 Prior art operating systems attempt to deal with new versions of operating
5 systems by using so-called version numbers. Version numbers are assigned to
6 each operating system. Applications can make specific calls to the operating
7 system to ascertain the version number of the operating system that is presently in
8 use. For example, when queried by an application, Windows NT 4 returns a "4"
9 and Windows NT 5 returns a "5". The application must then know what specific
10 protocol to use when communicating with the operating system. In addition, in
11 order for an operating system to know what operating system version the
12 application was designed for, a value is included in the application's binary. The
13 operating system can then attempt to accommodate the application's protocol.

14 The version number system has a couple of problems that can adversely
15 affect functionality. Specifically, a typical operating system may have thousands
16 of functions that can be called by an application. For example, Win32, a
17 Microsoft operating system application programming interface, has some 8000
18 functions. The version number that is assigned to an operating system then, by
19 definition, represents all of the possibly thousands of functions that an operating
20 system supports. This level of description is undesirable because it does not
21 provide an adequate degree of resolution. Additionally, some operating systems
22 can return the same version number. Thus, if the operating systems are different
23 (which they usually are), then returning the same version number can lead to
24 operating errors. What is needed is the ability to identify different versions of
25 operating systems at a level that is lower than the operating system level itself.

1 Ideally, this level should be at or near the function level so that a change in just
2 one or a few functions does not trigger a new version number for the entire
3 operating system.

4 The present invention arose out of concerns associated with providing
5 improved flexibility to operating systems. Specifically, the invention arose out of
6 concerns associated with providing operating systems that are configured for use
7 in distributed computing environments, and that can easily support legacy
8 applications and versioning.

9

10 **SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION**

11 Operating system functions are defined as objects that are collections of
12 data and methods. The objects represent operating system resources. The
13 resource objects can be instantiated and used across process and machine
14 boundaries. Each object has an associated handle that is stored in its private state.
15 When an application requests a resource, it is given a second handle or pseudo
16 handle that corresponds with the handle in the object's private state. The second
17 handle is valid across process and machine boundaries and all access to the object
18 takes place through the second handle. This greatly facilitates remote computing.
19 In preferred embodiments, the objects are COM objects and remote computing is
20 facilitated through the use of Distributed COM (DCOM) techniques.

21 Other embodiments of the invention provide legacy and versioning support
22 by identifying each resource, rather than the overall operating system, with a
23 unique identifier that can be specified by an application. Different versions of the
24 same resource have different identifiers. This ensures that applications that need a
25 specific version of a resource can receive that version. This also ensures that an

1 application can specifically request a particular version of a resource by using its
2 unique identifier, and be assured of receiving that resource.

3 Other embodiments of the invention provide legacy support by intercepting
4 calls for operating system functions and transforming those calls into object calls
5 that can be understood by the resource objects. This is accomplished in preferred
6 embodiments by injecting a level of indirection between an unmodified
7 application and an operating system.

8

9 **BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS**

10 Fig. 1 is a diagram that illustrates a prior art operating system.

11 Fig. 2 is a diagram of a computer that can be used to implement various
12 embodiments of the invention.

13 Fig. 3 is a diagram of one exemplary operating system architecture.

14 Fig. 4 is a high level diagram of an operating system having a plurality of
15 its resources defined as objects and distributed across process and machine
16 boundaries.

17 Fig. 5 is a diagram of an exemplary architecture in accordance with one
18 embodiment of the invention.

19 Fig. 6 is a diagram that illustrates operational aspects of one embodiment of
20 the invention.

21 Fig. 7 is a diagram of one exemplary operating system architecture.

22 Fig. 8 is a diagram of one exemplary operating system architecture.

23 Fig. 9 is a diagram of one exemplary operating system architecture.

24 Fig. 10 is a flow diagram that describes processing in accordance with one
25 embodiment of the invention.

1 Fig. 11 is a block diagram that illustrates one aspect of an interface
2 factoring scheme.

3 Figs 12-15 are diagrams of interface hierarchies in accordance with one
4 embodiment of the invention.

5

6 **DETAILED DESCRIPTION**

7

8 **Overview**

9 Various examples will be given in the context of Microsoft's Win32
10 operating system application programming interface and function library,
11 commonly referred to as the "Win32 API." Although this is a specific example, it
12 is not intended to limit the principles of the invention to only the Win32 function
13 library or, for that matter, to Microsoft's operating systems. The Win32 operating
14 system is described in detail in a text entitled *Windows 95 WIN32 Programming*
API Bible, authored by Richard Simon, and available through Waite Group Press.

15 In accordance with one embodiment of the invention, one or more of an
16 operating system's resources are defined as objects that can be identified and
17 manipulated by an application through the use of object-oriented techniques.
18 Generally, a resource is something that might have been represented in the prior
19 art as a particular handle "type." Examples of resources include files, windows,
20 menus and the like.

21 Preferably, all of the operating system's resources are defined in this way.
22 Doing so provides flexibility for distributed computing and legacy support as will
23 become apparent below. By defining the operating system resources as objects,
24 without reference to process-specific "handles," the objects can be instantiated
25 anywhere in a distributed system. This permits responsibility for different

1 resources to be split up across process and machine boundaries. Additionally, the
2 objects that define the various operating system resources can be identified in such
3 a way that applications have no trouble calling the appropriate objects when they
4 are running. This applies to whether the applications know they are running in
5 connection with operating system resource objects or not. If applications are
6 unaware that they are running in connection with operating system resource
7 objects, e.g. legacy applications, a mechanism is provided for translating calls for
8 the functions into object calls that are understood by the operating system
9 resources objects.

10 In addition, factorization schemes are provided that enable an operating
11 system's functions to be re-organized and redefined into a plurality of object
12 interfaces that have methods corresponding to the functions. In preferred
13 embodiments, the interfaces are organized to leverage advantages of interface
14 aggregation and inheritance.

15 Preliminarily, Fig. 2 shows a general example of a desktop computer 130
16 that can be used in accordance with the invention. Various numbers of computers
17 such as that shown can be used in the context of a distributed computing
18 environment. In this document, computers are also referred to as "machines".

19 Computer 130 includes one or more processors or processing units 132, a
20 system memory 134, and a bus 136 that couples various system components
21 including the system memory 134 to processors 132. The bus 136 represents one
22 or more of any of several types of bus structures, including a memory bus or
23 memory controller, a peripheral bus, an accelerated graphics port, and a processor
24 or local bus using any of a variety of bus architectures. The system memory 134
25 includes read only memory (ROM) 138 and random access memory (RAM) 140.

1 A basic input/output system (BIOS) 142, containing the basic routines that help to
2 transfer information between elements within computer 130, such as during start-
3 up, is stored in ROM 138.

4 Computer 130 further includes a hard disk drive 144 for reading from and
5 writing to a hard disk (not shown), a magnetic disk drive 146 for reading from and
6 writing to a removable magnetic disk 148, and an optical disk drive 150 for
7 reading from or writing to a removable optical disk 152 such as a CD ROM or
8 other optical media. The hard disk drive 144, magnetic disk drive 146, and optical
9 disk drive 150 are connected to the bus 136 by an SCSI interface 154 or some
10 other appropriate interface. The drives and their associated computer-readable
11 media provide nonvolatile storage of computer-readable instructions, data
12 structures, program modules and other data for computer 130. Although the
13 exemplary environment described herein employs a hard disk, a removable
14 magnetic disk 148 and a removable optical disk 152, it should be appreciated by
15 those skilled in the art that other types of computer-readable media which can
16 store data that is accessible by a computer, such as magnetic cassettes, flash
17 memory cards, digital video disks, random access memories (RAMs), read only
18 memories (ROMs), and the like, may also be used in the exemplary operating
19 environment.

20 A number of program modules may be stored on the hard disk 144,
21 magnetic disk 148, optical disk 152, ROM 138, or RAM 140, including an
22 operating system 158, one or more application programs 160, other program
23 modules 162, and program data 164. A user may enter commands and
24 information into computer 130 through input devices such as a keyboard 166 and a
25 pointing device 168. Other input devices (not shown) may include a microphone,

1 joystick, game pad, satellite dish, scanner, or the like. These and other input
2 devices are connected to the processing unit 132 through an interface 170 that is
3 coupled to the bus 136. A monitor 172 or other type of display device is also
4 connected to the bus 136 via an interface, such as a video adapter 174. In addition
5 to the monitor, personal computers typically include other peripheral output
6 devices (not shown) such as speakers and printers.

7 Computer 130 commonly operates in a networked environment using
8 logical connections to one or more remote computers, such as a remote computer
9 176. The remote computer 176 may be another personal computer, a server, a
10 router, a network PC, a peer device or other common network node, and typically
11 includes many or all of the elements described above relative to computer 130,
12 although only a memory storage device 178 has been illustrated in Fig. 2. The
13 logical connections depicted in Fig. 2 include a local area network (LAN) 180 and
14 a wide area network (WAN) 182. Such networking environments are
15 commonplace in offices, enterprise-wide computer networks, intranets, and the
16 Internet.

17 When used in a LAN networking environment, computer 130 is connected
18 to the local network 180 through a network interface or adapter 184. When used
19 in a WAN networking environment, computer 130 typically includes a modem 186
20 or other means for establishing communications over the wide area network 182,
21 such as the Internet. The modem 186, which may be internal or external, is
22 connected to the bus 136 via a serial port interface 156. In a networked
23 environment, program modules depicted relative to the personal computer 130, or
24 portions thereof, may be stored in the remote memory storage device. It will be
25

1 appreciated that the network connections shown are exemplary and other means of
2 establishing a communications link between the computers may be used.

3 Generally, the data processors of computer 130 are programmed by means
4 of instructions stored at different times in the various computer-readable storage
5 media of the computer. Programs and operating systems are typically distributed,
6 for example, on floppy disks or CD-ROMs. From there, they are installed or
7 loaded into the secondary memory of a computer. At execution, they are loaded at
8 least partially into the computer's primary electronic memory. The invention
9 described herein includes these and other various types of computer-readable
10 storage media when such media contain instructions or programs for implementing
11 the steps described below in conjunction with a microprocessor or other data
12 processor. The invention also includes the computer itself when programmed
13 according to the methods and techniques described below.

14 For purposes of illustration, programs and other executable program
15 components such as the operating system are illustrated herein as discrete blocks,
16 although it is recognized that such programs and components reside at various
17 times in different storage components of the computer, and are executed by the
18 data processor(s) of the computer.

19

20 **General Operating System Object Architecture**

21 Fig. 3 shows an exemplary group of objects generally at 30 that represent a
22 plurality of operating system resources 32, 34, 36, 38 within operating system 22.
23 Resource 32 is a file resource, resource 34 is a window resource, resource 36 is a
24 font resource, and resource 38 is a menu resource. The objects contain methods
25 and data that can be used to manipulate the object. For example, file object 32

1 might include the methods “CreateFile”, “WriteFile”, and “ReadFile”. Similarly,
2 window object 34 might include the methods “CreateWindow”, “CloseWindow”
3 and “FlashWindow”. Any number of objects can be provided and are really only
4 limited by the number of functions that exist in an operating system, and/or the
5 way in which the functions are factored as will become apparent below. In various
6 embodiments, it has been found advantageous to split the functions into a plurality
7 of objects based upon a logical relationship between the functions. One advantage
8 of doing this is that it facilitates computing in a distributed system and limits the
9 complexity of doing so. Specifically, by dividing the functions logically between
10 various objects, only objects having the desired functionality are instantiated on a
11 remote machine. For example, if all of the functions that are associated with
12 displaying a window on a display device are contained within a single object, then
13 only that object need be instantiated on a remote display machine, e.g. a handheld
14 device. Although it is possible for all of the functions of an operating system to be
15 represented by a single object, this would add to overhead during remote
16 processing. The illustrated architecture is particularly useful for applications that
17 are “aware” they are operating in connection with resource objects. These
18 applications can make specific object calls to the resource objects without the need
19 to intercept and translate their calls, as will be discussed below.

20 Although any suitable object model can be used to define the operating
21 system resources, it has been found particularly advantageous to define them as
22 COM objects. COM objects are well known Microsoft computing mechanisms
23 and are described in a book entitled *Inside OLE*, Second Edition 1995, which is
24 authored by Kraig Brockschmidt. In COM, each object has one or more interfaces
25 that are represented by the plug notation used in Fig. 3. An interface is a group of

1 semantically related functions or methods. All access to an object occurs through
2 member functions of an interface. Representing the operating system resources as
3 objects provides an opportunity to redefine the architecture of current operating
4 systems, and to provide new architectures that improve upon the old ones.

5 One advantage of representing resources as COM objects comes in the
6 remote computing environment. Specifically, when COM objects are instantiated
7 throughout a distributed computing system, Distributed COM (DCOM) techniques
8 can be used for remote communication. DCOM is a known communication
9 protocol developed by Microsoft.

10 Fig. 4 shows an exemplary distribution of an operating system's resources
11 across one process boundary and one machine boundary in a distributed
12 computing system. In the described example, resource object 48 is instantiated in-
13 process (i.e. inside the application's process), resource object 50 is instantiated in
14 another process on the same machine (i.e. local), and resource object 52 is
15 instantiated on another machine (i.e. remote). The instantiated resource objects
16 are used by the application 24 and constitute a translation layer between the
17 application and the operating system. Specifically, the application makes object
18 calls on the resource objects. The resource objects, in turn, pass the calls down
19 into the operating system in a manner that is understood by the operating system.
20 One way of doing this is through the use of handle/pseudo handle pairs discussed
21 in more detail below.

22 In order to use the resource objects, the application must first be able to
23 communicate with them. In one embodiment where the operating system
24 resources comprise COM objects, communication takes place through the use of
25 known DCOM techniques. Specifically, in the local case where resource 50 is

1 instantiated across a process boundary, DCOM provides for an instantiated
2 proxy/stub pair 54 to marshal data across the process boundary. The remote case
3 also uses a proxy/stub pair 54 to marshal data across the process and machine
4 boundaries. In addition, an optional proxy manager 56 can be instantiated or
5 otherwise provided to oversee communication performed by the proxy/stub pair,
6 and to take measures to reduce unnecessary communication. Specifically, one
7 common proxy manager task is to cache remote data to avoid unnecessary
8 communication. For example, in the Win32 operating system, information can be
9 cached to improve the re-drawing of remote windows. When a BeginPaint() call
10 is made, it signals the beginning of a re-draw operation by creating a new drawing
11 context resource. In order to be available remotely, this resource has to be
12 wrapped by an object. Rather than creating a new object instance on each re-draw
13 operation, an object instance can be cached in the proxy manager and re-used for
14 the re-draw wrapper

15

16 **Translation Layer**

17 Fig 5 shows a translation layer 58 comprising resource objects 32, 34, 36,
18 and 38. Translation layer 58 is interposed between an application 24 that is
19 configured to make resource object calls, and an operating system 22 that is not
20 configured to receive the resource object calls. In this example, application 24 is
21 not a legacy application because those applications directly call functions in the
22 operating system. Translation layer 58 works in concert with application 24 so
23 that the application's resource object calls can be used by the object to call
24 functions of the operating system.

1 Fig. 6 shows one way that translation layer 58 translates resource object
2 calls from the application 24 into calls to operating system functions. Here, the
3 operating system resources are defined as COM objects that have one or more
4 interfaces that are called by the application. Because the COM objects can be
5 instantiated either in process, locally, or remotely, the standard handle that was
6 discussed in the “Background” section cannot be used. Recall that the reason for
7 this is that the handle is only valid in its own process, and not in other processes
8 on the same or different machines. To address and overcome the limitations that
9 are inherent with the use of this first handle, aspects of the invention create a
10 second or “pseudo” handle and associate it with the first handle. The second
11 handle is preferably valid universally, outside the process of the first handle. This
12 means that the second handle is valid across multiple machine and process
13 boundaries. The application uses the second handle instead of the first handle
14 whenever it creates or manipulates an operating system resource.

15 In operation, an application initially calls a resource object in the translation
16 layer 58 when it wants to create a resource to use. An application may, for
17 example, call “CreateFile” on a file object to create a file. The application is then
18 passed a pseudo-handle 60 instead of the first handle 28 for the file object. The
19 first handle 28 is stored in the object instance’s private state, i.e. it remains with its
20 associated object. This means that the file object has its own real handle 28 that it
21 maintains, and the application has a pseudo handle 60 that corresponds to the real
22 handle. Application 24 makes object calls to the object of interest using the
23 pseudo-handle 60. The object takes the pseudo-handle, retrieves the
24 corresponding handle 28 and uses it to call functions in the operating system. The
25 application uses the pseudo-handle 60 for all access to the operating system

1 resource. In a preferred embodiment, pseudo-handle 60 is an interface pointer that
2 points to an interface of the object of interest.

3 With an appropriate pseudo-handle, an application is free to access any of
4 the resources that are associated with an object that corresponds to that handle.
5 This means that the application uses the pseudo-handle 60 to make subsequent
6 calls to, in this example, the file object. For example, calls to “ReadFile” and
7 “WriteFile” now take place using the pseudo handle 60. When the application
8 makes a call using the pseudo handle 60, the object determines the real handle that
9 corresponds to the pseudo-handle. Any suitable method can be used such as a
10 mapping process. If the object is in process, then the call gets passed down to the
11 operating system 22 using first handle 28 as shown. If the object is local or on
12 another machine, then communication takes place with the object at its current
13 location across process and machine boundaries. Where the operating system
14 resources are defined as COM objects, DCOM techniques can be used to call
15 across process and machine boundaries.

16 17 **Legacy Application Support**

18 Figs. 7 and 8 show two different architectures that can be used in
19 connection with legacy applications. Fig. 7 includes an operating system that is
20 the same as the one described in connection with Fig. 5. Fig. 8 includes an
21 operating system that is the same as the one described in connection with Fig. 3.

22 Recall that legacy applications are those that call operating system
23 functions instead of objects. These types of applications do not have any way of
24 knowing that they are running in connection with a system whose resources are
25 defined as objects. Hence, when an application calls a function, it “believes” that

1 the function is supported by and accessible through the operating system. The
2 syntax of the function calls, however, is not understood by the objects.
3 Embodiments of the invention translate the syntax of the function calls into syntax
4 that is understood by the objects. In accordance with one embodiment, application
5 calls are intercepted and transformed before reaching the operating system. The
6 transformed calls are then used to call the appropriate object using the syntax that
7 it can understand. Then the object passes the calls into the operating system as
8 was described above in connection with Fig. 6.

9 In one implementation, a detour 60 is provided that implements a detour
10 function. Detour 60 is interposed between the application and the operating
11 system. When an application calls a function, detour 60 intercepts the call and
12 transforms it into an object call. In preferred embodiments, detour 60 enables
13 communication across at least one and preferably more process and machine
14 boundaries for remote computing. Where the objects are COM objects,
15 communication takes place through DCOM techniques discussed above.

16 To understand how one embodiment of detour 60 works, the following
17 example is given. Syntactically, detour 60 changes the syntax of an application's
18 call to an operating system function into one that is understood by an object. For
19 example, a prior art call might use the following syntax to call "ReadFile":
20 ReadFile(handle, buffer, size), where "handle" specifies a file resource that is to
21 be read. There are many different resources that can be read using the ReadFile
22 function, e.g. a file, a pipe, and a socket.

23 When a prior art operating system is called in this manner, the operating
24 system typically looks for the code that is associated with reading the particular
25 type of resource that is specified by the handle, and then reads the resource using

1 the code. One way prior art operating systems can do this is to have one lengthy
2 “IF” statement that specifies the code to be used for each different type of
3 resource. Thus, if a new resource is to be added, the “IF” statement must be
4 modified to provide for that type of resource.

5 Detour 60 greatly streamlines this process by translating the “ReadFile” call
6 syntax into one that can be used by the specified resource. So in this example, the
7 original “handle” actually specifies an object. The new syntax for the object call
8 is represented as “handle→ReadFile (buffer, size)”. Here, “handle” is the object
9 and “ReadFile” is an object function or method. In COM embodiments, the
10 “ReadFile” method of the handle object is accessed through the object’s *vtable* in
11 a known manner. This configuration allows an object to contain only the code that
12 is specifically necessary to operate upon it. It need not contain any code that is
13 associated with other types of objects. This is advantageous because new objects
14 can be created simply by providing the code that is uniquely associated with it,
15 rather than by modifying a lengthy “IF” statement. Each object is self-contained
16 and does not impact or affect any of the other objects. Nor does its creation affect
17 the run time of any other objects. Only those applications that need a specific
18 object will have it created for their use. Another advantage is the ease with which
19 objects can be accessed. Specifically, applications can access the various objects
20 through the use of pseudo-handles which are discussed above.

21 Detour 60 constitutes but one way of making a syntactic transformation
22 from one format that cannot be used with resource objects to a format that can be
23 used with resource objects. This supports legacy applications that do not “know”
24 that they are running on top of a system whose resources are provided as objects.
25

1 So, to the application it appears as if its calls are working just the same as they
2 ever did.

3

4 Detour Implementation

5 When an application is built, it links against a set of dynamic linked
6 libraries or (DLLs). The DLLs contain code that corresponds to the particular
7 calls that an application makes. For example, the call “CreateFile” is contained in
8 a DLL called “kernel32.dll”. At run time, the operating system loads
9 “kernal32.dll” into the address space for the application. Detour 60 contains a
10 detour call for each call that an application makes. So, in this example, detour 60
11 contains a call “Detour_CreateFile”. The goal of detour 60 is to call the
12 “Detour_CreateFile” called every time the application calls “CreateFile”. This
13 provides a level of indirection when the application makes a call to the operating
14 system. The indirection enables certain decisions to be made by detour 60 that
15 relate to whether a call is made locally or remotely.

16 As an example, consider the following. If an application desires to use a
17 “WriteFile” call to write certain data to a particular file remotely, but also to write
18 certain other data to a file locally, then a redirected “Detour_WriteFile” call can
19 determine that there is a local operation that must take place, as well as a remote
20 operation that must take place. The “Detour_WriteFile” call can then make the
21 appropriate calls to ensure that the local operation does in fact take place, and the
22 appropriate calls to ensure that the remote operations do in fact take place.

23 One way of injecting this level of indirection into the call is to manipulate
24 the call’s assembly code. Specifically, portions of the assembly code can be
25 removed and replaced with code that implements the detour. So, using the

1 “CreateFile” call as an example, the first few lines of code comprising the
2 “CreateFile” call are removed and replaced with a “jump” instruction that calls
3 “Detour_CreateFile”. For those operating systems that do not natively implement
4 resource objects, a trampoline 62 (Fig. 9) is provided and receives the lines of
5 code that are removed, along with another jump instruction that jumps back to the
6 original “CreateFile” call. Now, when application 24 calls “CreateFile”, detour 60
7 automatically calls “Detour_CreateFile”. If there is local processing that must
8 take place, the “Detour_CreateFile” can call trampoline 62 to invoke the original
9 local “CreateFile” sub-routine. Otherwise, if there is remote processing that must
10 take place, the detour 60 can take the appropriate steps to ensure that remote
11 processing takes place. In this manner, the detour 60 wedges between the
12 application and the operating system with a level of indirection. The indirection
13 provides an opportunity to process either locally or remotely.

14 One of the primary advantages of detour 60 in the COM embodiments is
15 the remoting capabilities provided by DCOM. That is, because the operating
16 system’s resources are now modeled as COM objects, DCOM can be used
17 essentially for free to support communication with local or remote processes or
18 machines.

19

20 **Linking Against Detours**

21 One way that detours can be implemented is to modify the dynamic link
22 library (DLL) that an application links against. Specifically, rather than link
23 against DLLs and their associated functions, an application links directly against
24 detour functions, e.g. “detour32.dll” instead of “kernel32.dll”. Here,
25 “detour32.dll” contains the same function names as “kernel32.dll”. However,

1 rather than providing the kernel's functionality, "detour32.dll" contains object
2 calls. Thus, an application makes a function call to a function name in the
3 "detour32.dll" which, in turn, makes an object call.

4 With the "detour.dll", all of the function calls are translated into COM
5 calls. The trampoline 62 is loaded and is hardwired so that it knows where to
6 jump to the appropriate places in the kernal32.dll.

7

8 **Version Support**

9 Another aspect of the invention provides support for different versions of a
10 resource within an operating system. Recall that in the prior art, operating system
11 versions are simply represented by a version number. The version number
12 represents the entire collection of operating system functions. Thus, a
13 modification to a handful of operating system functions might spawn a new
14 operating system version and version number. Yet, many if not most of the
15 original functions remain unchanged. Because of this, version numbers provide an
16 undesirable degree of description. In addition, recall that previous operating
17 systems maintain vast function libraries that include all of the functions that an
18 application might need. Function calls cannot be deleted because legacy
19 applications might need them. This results in a large, bulky architecture of
20 collective functions that is not efficient.

21 While the functionality of these functions must be maintained to support
22 legacy applications, various embodiments of the invention do so in a manner that
23 is much less cumbersome and much more efficient. Specifically, embodiments of
24 the invention create the necessary resources for legacy applications only when
25 they are needed by an application. The resources are defined as objects that are

1 collections of data and methods. Each object only contains the methods that
2 pertain to it. No other resources are created or maintained if they are not
3 specifically needed by an application. This is made possible, in the preferred
4 embodiment, through the use of COM objects that encapsulate the functionality of
5 the requested resources.

6 Accurate version support is provided by the way in which object interfaces
7 are identified. Specifically, each object interface has its own unique identifier.
8 Each different version of a resource is represented by a different interface
9 identifier. An application can specifically request a unique identifier when it
10 wants a particular version of a resource.

11 One way of implementing this in COM is as follows. As background,
12 every interface in COM is defined by an interface identifier, or IID that is formed
13 by a globally unique identifier or “GUID”. GUIDs are numbers that are generated
14 by the operating system and are bound by the programmer or a development tool
15 to the interfaces that they represent. By programming convention, no two
16 incompatible interfaces can ever have the same IID. One of the rules in COM that
17 accompanies the use of these GUIDs is that if an interface changes in any way
18 whatsoever, so too must its associated IID change. Thus, IIDs and interfaces are
19 inextricably bound together and provide a way to uniquely identify the interface
20 with which it is associated over all other interfaces in its operating universe.

21 In the present invention, every operating system function is implemented as
22 a method of some interface that has its own assigned unique identifier. In the
23 preferred embodiment, the unique identifier comprises a GUID or IID. Other
24 unique identifiers can, of course, be used. An application that uses a set of
25 functions now specifies unique identifiers that are associated with the functions.

1 This assures the application that it will receive the exact versions of the functions
2 or methods that it needs to execute. In addition, in those circumstances where the
3 resources are instantiated across a distributed system, the unique identifiers are
4 specified across multiple process and machine boundaries. In a preferred
5 embodiment, the applications store the appropriate unique identifiers, GUIDs, or
6 IIDs in their data segment.

7 One of the benefits of using unique identifiers or IIDs is that each
8 represents the syntax and the semantics of an interface. If the syntax or the
9 semantics of an interface changes, the interface must be assigned a new identifier
10 or IID. By representing the operating system resources as COM objects that
11 support these interfaces, each with their own specific identifier or IID, applications
12 can be assured of the desired call syntax and semantics when specific interfaces
13 are requested. Specifically and with reference to the COM embodiments, an
14 application that knows it is operating on an operating system that has its resources
15 defined as COM objects can call *QueryInterface* on a particular object. By
16 specifying the IID in the *QueryInterface* call, the application can determine
17 whether that object implements a specific version of a specific interface.

18 In addition, embodiments of the invention can provide an operating system
19 with the ability to determine, based on the specified unique identifier, whether it
20 has the resource that is requested. If it does not, the operating system can ascertain
21 the location of the particular resource and retrieve it so that the application can
22 have the requested resource. The location from which the resource is retrieved can
23 be across process and machine boundaries. As an example, consider the
24 following. If an application asks for a specific version of a “ReadFile” interface,
25 and the operating system does not support that version, the operating system may

1 know where to go in order to download the code to implement the requested
2 functionality. Software code for the specific requested interface may, for example,
3 be located on a web site to which the operating system has access. The operating
4 system can then simply access the web site, download the code, and provide the
5 resource to the application.

6

7 **Linking Against Unique Identifiers**

8 When an application is linked, it typically links against a set of DLL names
9 and entry points in a known manner. The DLLs contain code that corresponds to
10 the particular calls that an application will need to make. So for example, if an
11 application knows that it is going to need the call “CreateFile”, it will link against
12 the DLL name that includes the code for that call, e.g. “kernel32.dll”. At run time,
13 a loader for the operating system loads “kernel32.dll” into the address space for
14 the application. Linking against DLLs in this manner does not support versioning
15 because there is no way to specify a particular version of a resource.

16 To address this and other problems, one embodiment of the invention
17 establishes a library that contains unique identifiers for one or more interfaces, e.g.
18 GUIDs, and the method offsets that are associated with the unique identifiers. The
19 method offsets correspond to the vtable entry for the unique identifier. An
20 application is then linked against the unique identifiers. For example, when an
21 application is compiled, it is linked against one or more “.lib” or library files. A
22 linker is responsible for taking the “.lib” files that have been specified by the
23 application and looking for the functions or methods that are needed by the
24 application. When the linker finds the appropriate specific functions, it copies
25 information out of the “.lib” file and into the binary image of the application. This

1 information includes the name of the DLL containing the functions, and the name
2 of the function. Linking by GUID and method offset can be accomplished by
3 simply modifying the library or “.lib” files by replacing the DLL names and
4 function names with the GUIDs and method offsets. This change does not affect
5 the application, operating system, or compiler. For example, DLL names typically
6 have the form “xxxxxx.dll”. The GUID identifier, on the other hand, is
7 represented as a hexadecimal string that is specified by a set of brackets “{}”. The
8 linker and the loader can then be modified by simply specifying that they should
9 look for the brackets, instead of looking for the “xxxxxx.dll” form. This results in
10 loading only those specific interfaces (containing the appropriate methods) that are
11 needed for an application instead of any DLLs. This supports versioning because
12 an application can specifically name, by GUID, the specific interfaces that it needs
13 to operate. Accordingly, only those interfaces that constitute the specific version
14 that an application requests are loaded.

15

16 Factorization

17 Factorization involves looking at a set of functions and reorganizing the
18 functions into defined interfaces based upon some definable logical relationship
19 between the functions. In the described embodiment of the invention, the existing
20 functions of an operating system are factored and assigned to different interfaces,
21 so that the functions are now implemented as interface methods. The interfaces
22 are associated with objects that represent underlying operating resources such as
23 files, windows, etc. In this context, an “object” is a data structure that includes
24 both data and associated methods. The objects are preferably COM objects that
25 can be instantiated anywhere throughout a remote computing system. Factoring

1 the function calls associated with an operating system's resources provides
2 independent operating system resources and promotes clarity. It also promotes
3 effective, efficient versioning, and clean remoting of the resources.

4 Fig. 10 shows a flow diagram at 200 that describes factorization steps in
5 accordance with one embodiment of the invention. Step 202 factors function calls
6 into first interface groups based upon a first criteria. An exemplary first criteria
7 takes into account the particular items or underlying resources associated with the
8 operation of a function, or the particular manner in which a function behaves. For
9 example, some functions might be associated only with a window resource in that
10 they create a window or allow a window to be manipulated in some way. These
11 types of functions are placed into a first group that is associated with windows.
12 An exemplary first interface group might be designated *IWin32Window*.

13 Step 204 factors the first groups into individual sub-groups based upon a
14 second criteria. An exemplary second criteria is based upon the nature of the
15 operation of a function on the particular item or resource with which it is
16 associated. For example, by nature, some functions create resources such as
17 windows, while other functions do not create resources. Rather, these other
18 functions have an effect on, or operate in some manner on a resource after it has
19 been created. Accordingly, step 204 considers this operational nature and assigns
20 the functions to different sub-groups based upon operational differences. In one
21 embodiment, the groups are factored into sub-groups by considering the call
22 parameters and return values that the functions use. This permits factorization to
23 take place based upon each function's use of a handle. As an example, consider
24 the following five functions:

```
1 HANDLE CreateWindow(...);  
2 int DialogBoxParam(...,HANDLE,...);  
3 int FlashWindow(HANDLE,...);  
4 HANDLE GetProp (HANDLE,...)  
5 int GetWindowText(HANDLE,...);  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10
```

A loaded operating system resource is exported to the application as an opaque value called a kernel handle. Functions that create kernel handles (i.e., resources) are moved to a “factory” interface, and functions that then query or manipulate these kernel handles are moved to a “handle” interface. Accordingly, step 206 assigns the sub-groups to different object interfaces. For example, those functions that create a window are assigned into an interface sub-group called *IWin32WindowFactory*, while those functions that do not create a window, but rather operate on it in some way are assigned into an interface sub-group called *IWin32WindowHandle*. Each interface represents a particular object’s implementation of its collective functions. Objects can now be created or instantiated that include interfaces that contain one or more methods that correspond to the functions. Objects can be instantiated anywhere in a remote computing environment.

In a further extension of the factorization, consideration is given to functions that act upon a number of different resources. For example, Win32 has several calls that synchronize on a specified handle. The specified handle can represent a standard synchronization resource, such as a mutual exclusion lock, or less common synchronization resources such as processes or files. By simply factoring the functions as described above, this relationship would be missed. For example, the synchronization calls would be placed in a *IWin32SyncHandle* interface, while the process and file calls would be placed in

1 *IWin32ProcessHandle* and *IWin32FileHandle* interfaces, respectively. In order to
2 capture the relationship between these functions though, the process and file
3 interfaces should also include the synchronization calls. Because the process and
4 file handles can be thought of as logically extending the functionality of the
5 synchronization handle, the concept of interface inheritance can be used to ensure
6 that this takes place. Accordingly, both the *IWin32ProcessHandle* and
7 *IWin32FileHandle* will thus inherit from the *IWin32SyncHandle* interface. This
8 means that the *IWin32ProcessHandle* and *IWin32FileHandle* interfaces contain all
9 the methods of the *IWin32SyncHandle* interface, in addition to their own methods.

10 To assist in further understanding of the factorization scheme, the following
11 example is given by considering again the five functions listed above. Fig. 11
12 constitutes a small but exemplary subset of the 130+ window functions in the
13 Win32 operating system. The “CreateWindow()” function creates a window. The
14 remaining functions execute a dialog box, flash the window’s title bar, query
15 various window properties, and return the current text in the window title bar.
16 These functions all operate on windows in some way and are first factored into a
17 windows group. Next, the functions are further factored depending on their use of
18 kernel handles (denoted by “HANDLE” in the above functions). Since
19 “CreateWindow()” creates a handle or window, it is factored into a factory sub-
20 group called *IWin32WindowFactory*. Since the other functions do not create a
21 window, but only operate on or relative to one, they are placed in a handle sub-
22 group called *IWin32WindowHandle*. In a third step, the *IWin32WindowHandle*
23 sub-group is further factored into *IWin32WindowState* and *IWin32Property*
24 interfaces. The State and Property interfaces are said to compose the
25 *IWin32WindowHandle* interface. This composition is modeled through interface

1 aggregation. The dialog calls are factored into their own interface since they are
2 logical extensions of the windows. This is modeled through interface inheritance.
3 Interface aggregation and inheritance are discussed in more detail in the
4 Brockschmidt text above.

5 To further assist in understanding the factorization scheme, Figs. 12-15 are
6 provided, as well as the factorization list below. Figs. 12-15 lists the interface
7 hierarchy and factoring of a subset of more than one thousand functions of the
8 Win32 operating system. The subset contains the necessary Win32 functions to
9 support three operating system-intensive applications: Microsoft PhotoDraw, the
10 Microsoft Developers' Network Corporate Benefits sample, and Microsoft
11 Research's Octarine. The first is a commercial image manipulation package, the
12 second is a widely distributed sample three-tiered, client-server application, and
13 the third is a prototype COM-based integrated productivity application. All
14 obsolete Windows 3.1 (16-bit) calls have been placed in *IWin16* interfaces. In
15 implementation, the top-level call prototypes will mirror their Win32 counterparts,
16 with the appropriate parameters replaced by interface pointers. Note that these
17 calls can wrap lower-level methods that implement different parameters. For
18 example, the lower level methods could return descriptive HRESULTs directly
19 and the Win32 return types as OUT parameters. Additionally, ANSI API calls can
20 be implemented as wrappers of their UNICODE counterparts. The wrappers will
21 simply perform argument translation and then invoke the counterpart.

22 The factorization list below lists the interface hierarchy. Inheritance
23 relationships are clearly shown by the connecting lines, while aggregation is
24 pictured by placing one interface block within another. This section also lists the
25

call factorization. In the factorization list, “X:Y” denotes that X inherits from Y, and “Y←X” denotes that X is aggregated into Y.

Factorization List

Generic Handles

IWin32Handle

CloseHandle

Atoms

IWin32Atom

GlobalDeleteAtom
GlobalGetAtomNameA

IWin32AtomFactory

GlobalAddAtomA

Clipboard

IWin32Clipboard

ChangeClipboardChain
CloseClipboard
GetClipboardData
GetClipboardFormatNameA
GetClipboardFormatNameW
GetClipboardOwner
GetClipboardViewer
GetOpenClipboardWindow
IsClipboardFormatAvailable
SetClipboardData

IWin32ClipboardFactory

RegisterClipboardFormatA
RegisterClipboardFormatW

Console

IWin32Console : IWin32SyncHandle

GetConsoleMode
GetNumberOfConsoleInputEvents
PeekConsoleInputA
ReadConsoleA
ReadConsoleInputA
SetConsoleMode
SetStdHandle
WriteConsoleA

IWin32ConsoleFactory

AllocConsole
GetStdHandle

Drawing

IWin16DeviceContextFont : IWin16DeviceContext

EnumFontFamiliesA
EnumFontsW
GetCharWidthA

GetTextExtentPointA
GetTextExtentPointW

IWin16MetaFile : IWin16DeviceContext

CloseMetaFile
CopyMetaFileA
DeleteMetaFile
EnumMetaFile
GetMetaFileA
GetMetaFileBitsEx
GetWinMetaFileBits
PlayMetaFile
PlayMetaFileRecord

IWin16MetaFileFactory

GetEnhMetaFileA
SetEnhMetaFileBits
SetMetaFileBitsEx

IWin32Bitmap:IWin32GDIObject

CreatePatternBrush
GetBitmapDimensionEx
GetDIBits
SetBitmapDimensionEx
SetDIBits
SetDIBitsToDevice

IWin32BitmapFactory

CreateBitmap
CreateBitmapIndirect
CreateCompatibleBitmap
CreateDIBSection
CreateDIBitmap
CreateDiscardableBitmap

IWin32BrushFactory

CreateBrushIndirect
CreateDIBPatternBrushPt
CreateHatchBrush
CreateSolidBrush

IWin32Colorspace

DeleteColorSpace

IWin32ColorspaceFactory

CreateColorSpaceA

IWin32Cursor

DestroyCursor
SetCursor

IWin32CursorFactory

```

1      GetCursor
2  IWin32CursorUtility
3      ClipCursor
4      GetCursorPos
5      SetCursorPos
6      ShowCursor
7
8  IWin32DeviceContext←
9      IWin32DeviceContextFont,
10     IWin32DeviceContextCoords,
11     IWin32Path,
12     IWin32DeviceContextProperties,
13     IWin32ScreenClip
14     AngleArc
15     Arc
16     ArcTo
17     BitBlt
18     Chord
19     CreateCompatibleDC
20     DeleteDC
21     DrawEdge
22     DrawEscape
23     DrawFocusRect
24     DrawFrameControl
25     DrawIcon
1      DrawIconEx
2      DrawStateA
3      DrawTextA
4      DrawTextW
5      Ellipse
6      EnumObjects
7      ExtFloodFill
8      ExtTextOutA
9      ExtTextOutW
10     FillRect
11     FillRgn
12     FloodFill
13     FrameRect
14     FrameRgn
15     GdiFlush
16     GetCurrentObject
17     GetCursorPositionEx
18     GetPixel
19     GrayStringA
20     GrayStringW
21     InvertRect
22     InvertRgn
23     LineDDA
24     LineTo
25     MaskBlt
1      MoveToEx
2      PaintRgn
3      PatBlt
4      Pie
5      PlgBlt
6
7      PolyBezier
8      PolyBezierTo
9      PolyDraw
10     PolyPolygon
11     PolyPolyline
12     Polygon
13     Polyline
14     PolylineTo
15     Rectangle
16     ReleaseDC
17     ResetDCA
18     RestoreDC
19     RoundRect
20     SaveDC
21     ScrollDC
22     SetPixel
23     SetPixelV
24     StretchBit
25     StretchDIBits
1      TabbedTextOutA
2      TextOutA
3      TextOutW
4      WindowFromDC
5
6  IWin32DeviceContextCoordinates
7      DPtoLP
8      LPtoDP
9
10     IWin32DeviceContextFactory
11     CreateDCA
12     CreateDCW
13     CreateICA
14     CreateICW
15     CreateMetaFileA
16     CreateMetaFileW
17
18     IWin32DeviceContextFont
19     EnumFontFamiliesExA
20     GetAspectRatioFilterEx
21     GetCharABCWidthsA
22     GetCharABCWidthsFloatA
23     GetCharABCWidthsW
24     GetCharWidth32A
25     GetCharWidth32W
1      GetCharWidthFloatA
2      GetFontData
3      GetGlyphOutlineA
4      GetGlyphOutlineW
5      GetKerningPairsA
6      GetOutlineTextMetricsA
7      GetTabbedTextExtentA
8      GetTextAlign
9      GetTextCharacterExtra
10     GetTextCharsetInfo
11     GetTextColor
12     GetTextExtentExPointA

```

```

1 GetTextExtentExPointW
2 GetTextExtentPoint32A
3 GetTextExtentPoint32W
4 GetTextFaceA
5 GetTextMetricsA
6 GetTextMetricsW
7 SetMapperFlags
8 SetTextAlign
9 SetTextCharacterExtra
10 SetTextColor
11 SetTextJustification
12 IWin32DeviceContextProperties
13 GetArcDirection
14 GetBkColor
15 GetBkMode
16 GetBoundsRect
17 GetBrushOrgEx
18 GetColorAdjustment
19 GetColorSpace
20 GetDeviceCaps
21 GetMapMode
22 GetNearestColor
23 GetPolyFillMode
24 GetROP2
25 GetStretchBltMode
GetViewportExtEx
GetViewportOrgEx
GetWindowExtEx
GetWindowOrgEx
OffsetViewportOrgEx
OffsetWindowOrgEx
PtVisible
RectVisible
ScaleViewportExtEx
ScaleWindowExtEx
SetArcDirection
SetBkColor
SetBkMode
SetBoundsRect
SetBrushOrgEx
SetColorAdjustment
SetColorSpace
SetDIBColorTable
SetICMMode
SetMapMode
SetMiterLimit
SetPolyFillMode
SetROP2
SetStretchBltMode
SetViewportExtEx
SetViewportOrgEx
SetWindowExtEx
SetWindowOrgEx
UpdateColors
IWin32EnhMetaFile:
IWin32DeviceContext
CloseEnhMetaFile
CopyEnhMetaFileA
CreateEnhMetaFileA
CreateEnhMetaFileW
DeleteEnhMetaFile
EnumEnhMetaFile
GdiComment
GetEnhMetaFileBits
GetEnhMetaFileDescriptionA
GetEnhMetaFileDescriptionW
GetEnhMetaFileHeader
GetEnhMetaFilePaletteEntries
PlayEnhMetaFile
PlayEnhMetaFileRecord
IWin32EnhMetaFileFactory
SetWinMetaFileBits
IWin32FontFactory
CreateFontA
CreateFontIndirectA
CreateFontIndirectW
CreateFontW
IWin32GDIObject
DeleteObject
GetObjectA
GetObjectType
GetObjectW
SelectObject
UnrealizeObject
IWin32GDIObjectFactory
GetStockObject
IWin32Icon
CopyIcon
DestroyIcon
GetIconInfo
IWin32IconFactory
CreateIcon
CreateIconFromResource
CreateIconFromResourceEx
CreateIconIndirect
CreateMenu
IWin32Palette : IWin32GDIObject
AnimatePalette
GetNearestPaletteIndex
GetPaletteEntries
ResizePalette
SelectPalette
SetPaletteEntries
IWin32PaletteFactory
CreateHalftonePalette
CreatePalette
IWin32PaletteSystem

```

```

1 GetSystemPaletteEntries
2 GetSystemPaletteUse
3 RealizePalette
4
5 IWin32Path
6 AbortPath
7 BeginPath
8 CloseFigure
9 EndPath
10 FillPath
11 FlattenPath
12 GetMiterLimit
13 GetPath
14 PathToRegion
15 StrokeAndFillPath
16 StrokePath
17 WidenPath
18
19 IWin32PenFactory
20 CreatePen
21 CreatePenIndirect
22 ExtCreatePen
23
24 IWin32Print : IWin32DeviceContext
25 AbortDoc
26 EndDoc
27 EndPage
28 Escape
29 ExtEscape
30 SetAbortProc
31 StartDocA
32 StartDocW
33 StartPage
34
35 IWin32Rect
36 CopyRect
37 EqualRect
38 InflateRect
39 IntersectRect
40 IsRectEmpty
41 OffsetRect
42 PtInRect
43 SetRect
44 SetRectEmpty
45 SubtractRect
46 UnionRect
47
48 IWin32Region : IWin32GDIObject
49 CombineRgn
50 EqualRgn
51 GetRegionData
52 GetRgnBox
53 OffsetRgn
54 PtInRegion
55 RectInRegion
56 SetRectRgn
57
58 IWin32RegionFactory
59 CreateEllipticRgn
60 CreateEllipticRgnIndirect
61
62 CreatePolyPolygonRgn
63 CreatePolygonRgn
64 CreateRectRgn
65 CreateRectRgnIndirect
66 CreateRoundRectRgn
67 ExtCreateRegion
68
69 IWin32ScreenClip :
70 IWin32DeviceContext
71 ExcludeClipRect
72 ExcludeUpdateRgn
73 ExtSelectClipRgn
74 GetClipBox
75 GetClipRgn
76 IntersectClipRect
77 OffsetClipRgn
78 SelectClipPath
79 SelectClipRgn
80
81 Environment
82
83 IWin32EnvironmentUtility
84 FreeEnvironmentStringsA
85 FreeEnvironmentStringsW
86 GetEnvironmentStrings
87 GetEnvironmentStringsW
88 GetEnvironmentVariableW
89 SetEnvironmentVariableA
90 SetEnvironmentVariableW
91
92 File
93
94 IWin16File : IWin16Handle
95 _hread
96 _hwrite
97 _lclose
98 _llseek
99 _lopen
100 _lwrite
101
102 IWin16FileFactory
103 OpenFile
104 _lcreat
105 _lread
106
107 IWin32File : IWin32AsyncIOHandle
108 FlushFileBuffers
109 GetFileInformationByHandle
110 GetFileSize
111 GetFileType
112 LockFile
113 LockFileEx
114 ReadFile
115 ReadFileEx
116 SetEndOfFile
117 SetFilePointer
118 SetFileTime
119 UnlockFile
120 WriteFile

```

```

1           WriteFileEx
2 IWin32FileFactory
3     CreateFileA
4     CreateFileW
5     OpenFileMappingA
6 IWin32FileMapping:
7   IWin32ASyncIOHandle
8     MapViewOfFile
9     UnmapViewOfFile
10 IWin32FileMappingFactory
11   CreateFileMappingA
12 IWin32FileSystem
13   CopyFileA
14   CopyFileEx
15   CopyFileW
16   CreateDirectoryA
17   CreateDirectoryExA
18   CreateDirectoryExW
19   CreateDirectoryW
20   DeleteFileA
21   DeleteFileW
22   GetDiskFreeSpaceA
23   GetDiskFreeSpaceEx
24   GetDriveTypeA
25   GetDriveTypeW
   GetFileAttributesA
   GetFileAttributesW
   GetFileVersionInfoA
   GetFileVersionInfoSizeA
   GetLogicalDriveStringsA
   GetLogicalDrives
   GetVolumeInformationA
   GetVolumeInformationW
   MoveFileA
   MoveFileEx
   MoveFileW
   RemoveDirectoryA
   RemoveDirectoryW
   SetFileAttributesA
   SetFileAttributesW
   UnlockFileEx
   VerQueryValueA
IWin32FileUtility
   AreFileApisANSI
   CompareFileTime
   DosDateTimeToFileTime
   FileTimeToDosDateTime
   FileTimeToLocalFileTime
   FileTimeToSystemTime
   GetFullPathNameA
   GetFullPathNameW
   GetShortPathNameA
   GetShortPathNameW
   GetTempFileNameA
   GetTempFileNameW
   GetTempPathA
   GetTempPathW
   LocalFileTimeToFileTime
   SearchPathA
   SystemTimeToFileTime
IWin32FindFile : IWin32ASyncIOHandle
   FindClose
   FindCloseChangeNotification
   FindFirstFileEx
   FindNextChangeNotification
   FindNextFileA
   FindNextFileW
IWin32FindFileFactory
   FindFirstChangeNotificationA
   FindFirstChangeNotificationW
   FindFirstFileA
   FindFirstFileW

```

Interprocess Communication

```

IWin32DDE
   DdeAccessData
   DdeDisconnect
   DdeFreeDataHandle
   DdeFreeStringHandle
   DdeUnaccessData
IWin32DDEFactory
   DdeClientTransaction
   DdeConnect
   DdeCreateStringHandleA
IWin32DDEUtility
   DdeGetLastError
   DdeInitializeA
   ReuseDDEParam
   UnpackDDEParam
IWin32Pipe : IWin32ASyncIOHandle
   PeekNamedPipe
IWin32PipeFactory
   CreatePipe

```

Keyboard

```

IWin32Keyboard
   GetAsyncKeyState
   GetKeyState
   GetKeyboardState
   MapVirtualKeyA
   SetKeyboardState
   VkKeyScanA
   keybd_event
IWin32KeyboardLayout
   ActivateKeyboardLayout
IWin32KeyboardLayoutFactory
   GetKeyboardLayout

```

Memory

```

1   IWin16GlobalMemory : IWin16Memory
2     GlobalFlags
3     GlobalFree
4     GlobalLock
5     GlobalReAlloc
6     GlobalSize
7     GlobalUnlock
8
9   IWin16GlobalMemoryFactory
10    GlobalAlloc
11    GlobalHandle
12
13  IWin32Heap : IWin32Memory
14    HeapAlloc
15    HeapCompact
16    HeapDestroy
17    HeapFree
18    HeapReAlloc
19    HeapSize
20    HeapValidate
21    HeapWalk
22
23  IWin32HeapFactory
24    GetProcessHeap
25    HeapCreate
26
27  IWin16LocalMemory : IWin16Memory
28    LocalFree
29    LocalLock
30    LocalReAlloc
31    LocalUnlock
32
33  IWin32LocalMemoryFactory
34    LocalAlloc
35
36  IWin16Memory
37    IsBadCodePtr
38    IsBadReadPtr
39    IsBadStringPtrA
40    IsBadStringPtrW
41    IsBadWritePtr
42
43  IWin32Memory
44    IsBadCodePtr
45    IsBadReadPtr
46    IsBadStringPtrA
47    IsBadStringPtrW
48    IsBadWritePtr
49
50  IWin32VirtualMemory : IWin32Memory
51    VirtualFree
52    VirtualLock
53    VirtualProtect
54    VirtualQuery
55    VirtualUnlock
56
57  IWin32VirtualMemoryFactory
58    VirtualAlloc
59
60 Module
61
62  IWin32Module : IWin32Handle
63    DisableThreadLibraryCalls
64    EnumResourceNamesA
65
66  FindResourceA
67  FreeLibrary
68  GetModuleFileNameA
69  GetModuleFileNameW
70  GetProcAddress
71  LoadBitmapA
72  LoadBitmapW
73  LoadCursorA
74  LoadCursorW
75  LoadIconA
76  LoadIconW
77  LoadImageA
78  LoadMenuA
79  LoadMenuIndirectA
80  LoadStringA
81  SizeofResource
82
83  IWin32ModuleFactory
84    GetModuleHandleA
85    GetModuleHandleW
86    LoadLibraryA
87    LoadLibraryExA
88    LoadLibraryW

```

Multiple Window Position

IWin32MWP
 BeginDeferWindowPos
 DeferWindowPos
 EndDeferWindowPos

Ole

IWin32Ole
 CoDisconnectObject
 CoLockObjectExternal
 CoRegisterClassObject
 CoRevokeClassObject

IWin32OleFactory
 BindMoniker
 CoCreateInstance
 CoGetClassObject
 CoGetInstanceFromFile
 CreateDataAdviseHolder
 CreateDataCache
 CreateILockBytesOnHGlobal
 CreateOleAdviseHolder
 CreateStreamOnHGlobal
 OleCreate
 OleCreateDefaultHandler
 OleCreateFromData
 OleCreateFromFile
 OleCreateLink
 OleCreateLinkFromData
 OleCreateLinkToFile
 OleGetClipboard

```

1 OleLoad
2 IWin32OleMarshalUtility
3   CoMarshalInterface
4   CoReleaseMarshalData
5   CoUnmarshalInterface
6 IWin32OleMoniker
7   CreateGenericComposite
8   CreateItemMoniker
9   CreatePointerMoniker
10  CreateURLMoniker
11  MkParseDisplayName
12  MonikerCommonPrefixWith
13  MonikerRelativePathTo
14 IWin32OleMonikerFactory
15   CreateBindCtx
16   CreateFileMoniker
17   GetRunningObjectTable
18 IWin32OleStg
19   OleConvertIStorageToOLESTREAM
20   OleSave
21   ReadClassStg
22   ReleaseStgMedium
23   WriteClassStg
24   WriteFmtUserTypeStg
25 IWin32OleStgFactory
26   StgCreateDocfile
27   StgCreateDocfileOnILockBytes
28   StgIsStorageFile
29   StgOpenStorage
30 IWin32OleStream
31   GetHGlobalFromStream
32   OleConvertOLESTREAMToIStorage
33   OleLoadFromStream
34   OleSaveToStream
35   ReadClassStm
36   WriteClassStm
37 IWin32OleUtility
38   CLSIDFromProgID
39   CLSIDFromString
40   CoCreateGuid
41   CoFileTimeNow
42   CoFreeUnusedLibraries
43   CoGetMalloc
44   CoInitialize
45   CoRegisterMessageFilter
46   CoTaskMemAlloc
47   CoTaskMemFree
48   CoTaskMemRealloc
49   CoUninitialize
50   GetClassFile
51   GetHGlobalFromILockBytes
52   IIDFromString
53   OleGetIconOfClass

```

OleInitialize
 OleIsRunning
 OleRegEnumVerbs
 OleRegGetMiscStatus
 OleReg GetUserType
 OleSetClipboard
 OleUninitialize
 ProgIDFromCLSID
 PropVariantClear
 RegisterDragDrop
 RevokeDragDrop
 StringFromCLSID
 StringFromGUID2
 StringFromIID

OpenGL

IWin32GL
 glBegin
 glClear
 glClearColor
 glClearDepth
 glColor3d
 glEnable
 glEnd
 glFinish
 glMatrixMode
 glNormal3d
 glPolygonMode
 glPopMatrix
 glPushMatrix
 glRotated
 glScaled
 glTranslated
 glVertex3d
 glViewport
 wglCreateContext
 wglGetCurrentDC
 wglMakeCurrent

IWin32GLU
 gluCylinder
 gluDeleteQuadric
 gluNewQuadric
 gluPerspective
 gluQuadricDrawStyle
 gluQuadricNormals

Printer

IWin32Printer
 ClosePrinter
 DocumentPropertiesA
 GetPrinterA
IWin32PrinterFactory
 OpenPrinterA
 OpenPrinterW

<p>1 IWin32PrinterUtility DeviceCapabilitiesA EnumPrintersA</p> <p>2 Process</p> <p>3 IWin16ProcessFactory WinExec</p> <p>4 IWin32Process : IWin32SyncHandle ← IWin32ProcessContext DebugBreak ExitProcess FatalAppExitA FatalExit GetExitCodeProcess GetCurrentProcessId GetProcessVersion GetProcessWorkingSetSize OpenProcessToken SetProcessWorkingSetSize TerminateProcess UnhandledExceptionFilter</p> <p>5 IWin32ProcessContext GetCommandLineA GetCommandLineW GetCurrentDirectoryA GetCurrentDirectoryW GetStartupInfoA SetConsoleCtrlHandler SetCurrentDirectoryA SetCurrentDirectoryW SetHandleCount SetUnhandledExceptionFilter</p> <p>6 IWin32ProcessFactory CreateProcessA CreateProcessW OpenProcess</p>	RegEnumKeyW RegOpenKeyA RegOpenKeyW RegQueryValueA RegQueryValueW RegSetValueA RegSetValueW
	IWin32Registry RegCloseKey RegCreateKeyA RegCreateKeyExW RegDeleteKeyA RegDeleteKeyW RegDeleteValueA RegDeleteValueW RegEnumKeyExA RegEnumKeyExW RegEnumValueA RegEnumValueW RegFlushKey RegNotifyChangeKeyValue RegOpenKeyExA RegOpenKeyExW RegQueryInfoKeyA RegQueryInfoKeyW RegQueryValueExA RegQueryValueExW RegSetValueExA RegSetValueExW
	Resource
	IWin32Resource LoadResource LockResource
	Security
	IWin32SecurityACL AddAccessAllowedAce AddAccessDeniedAce AddAce DeleteAce GetAce GetAclInformation
	IWin32SecurityACLUtility InitializeAcl IsValidAcl
	IWin32SecurityAccess CopySid EqualSid GetLengthSid IsValidSid LookupAccountNameA LookupAccountSid LookupPrivilegeValueA
	IWin32SecurityDescriptor

17 Registry

18 **IWin16Profile**
GetPrivateProfileIntA
GetPrivateProfileStringA
GetPrivateProfileStringW
GetProfileIntA
GetProfileIntW
GetProfileStringA
GetProfileStringW
WritePrivateProfileStringA
WritePrivateProfileStringW
WriteProfileStringA
WriteProfileStringW

19 **IWin16Registry**
RegCreateKeyExA
RegCreateKeyW
RegEnumKeyA

```

1 GetSecurityDescriptorDacl
2 GetSecurityDescriptorGroup
3 GetSecurityDescriptorOwner
4 GetSecurityDescriptorSacl
5 IsValidSecurityDescriptor
6 SetSecurityDescriptorDacl
7 SetSecurityDescriptorGroup
8 SetSecurityDescriptorOwner
9 SetSecurityDescriptorSacl
10 IWin32SecurityDescriptorFactory
11 InitializeSecurityDescriptor
12 IWin32SecurityToken : IWin32Handle
13 AdjustTokenPrivileges
14 GetTokenInformation
15 IWin32SecurityToken : IWin32Handle
16 OpenProcessToken
17 OpenThreadToken

```

Shell

```

1 IWin32Drop
2 DragFinish
3 DragQueryFileW
4 DragQueryPoint
5 IWin32Shell
6 SHGetDesktopFolder
7 SHGetFileInfoA
8 ShellExecuteA

```

Synchronization

```

1 IWin32AtomicUtility
2 InterlockedDecrement
3 InterlockedExchange
4 InterlockedIncrement
5 IWin32CriticalSection
6 DeleteCriticalSection
7 EnterCriticalSection
8 LeaveCriticalSection
9 IWin32CriticalSectionFactory
10 InitializeCriticalSection
11 IWin32Event : IWin32SyncHandle
12 PulseEvent
13 ResetEvent
14 SetEvent
15 IWin32EventFactory
16 CreateEventA
17 IWin32Mutex : IWin32SyncHandle
18 ReleaseMutex
19 IWin32MutexFactory
20 CreateMutexA
21 OpenMutexA
22 IWin32Semaphore : IWin32SyncHandle
23 ReleaseSemaphore
24 IWin32SemaphoreFactory
25 CreateSemaphoreA

```

```

IWin32SyncHandle : IWin32Handle
MsgWaitForMultipleObjects
SignalObjectAndWait
WaitForMultipleObjects
WaitForSingleObject
WaitForSingleObjectEx
IWin32WaitableTimer : IWin32SyncHandle
CancelWaitableTimer
SetWaitableTimer
IWin32WaitableTimerFactory
CreateWaitableTimer
OpenWaitableTimer

```

System

```

IWin32WindowsHook
CallNextHookEx
UnhookWindowsHookEx
IWin32WindowsHookFactory
SetWindowsHookExA
SetWindowsHookExW
IWin32WindowsHookUtility
CallMsgFilterA
CallMsgFilterW

```

Thread

```

IWin32Thread : IWin32SyncHandle ←
IWin32ThreadContext,
IWin32ThreadMessage
DispatchMessageA
DispatchMessageW
ExitThread
GetCurrentThreadId
GetExitCodeThread
GetThreadLocale
GetThreadPriority
OpenThreadToken
ResumeThread
SetThreadPriority
SetThreadToken
Sleep
SuspendThread
TerminateThread
TlsAlloc
TlsFree
TlsGetValue
TlsSetValue
IWin32ThreadContext
EnumThreadWindows
GetActiveWindow
IWin32ThreadFactory
CreateThread
IWin32ThreadMessage
GetMessageA

```

```

1 GetMessagePos
2 GetMessageTime
3 GetMessageW
4 GetQueueStatus
5 PostQuitMessage
6 PostThreadMessageA
7 TranslateMessage
8 WaitMessage
9
IWin32ThreadUtility

Timer
10 IWin32Timer
11 KillTimer
12 SetTimer

Utilities
13 IWin32Beep
14 Beep
15 MessageBeep
16 IWin32StringUtility
17 CharLowerA
18 CharLowerBuffA
19 CharLowerW
20 CharNextA
21 CharNextW
22 CharPrevA
23 CharToOemA
24 CharUpperA
25 CharUpperBuffA
26 CharUpperBuffW
27 CharUpperW
28 CompareStringA
29 CompareStringW
30 FormatMessageA
31 FormatMessageW
32 GetStringTypeA
33 GetStringTypeExA
34 GetStringTypeW
35 IsCharAlphaA
36 IsCharAlphaNumericA
37 IsCharAlphaNumericW
38 IsCharAlphaW
39 IsDBCSLeadByte
40 IsDBCSLeadByteEx
41 LCMapStringA
42 LCMapStringW
43 MultiByteToWideChar
44 OutputDebugStringA
45 OutputDebugStringW
46 ToAscii
47 WideCharToMultiByte
48 lstrcmpA
49 lstrcmpiA
50 lstrcpyA
51 lstrcpyW
52 lstrcpynA
53 lstrlenA
54 lstrlenW
55 wsprintfA
56 wsprintfW
57 wvsprintfA
58 IWin32SystemUtility
59 CountClipboardFormats
60 EmptyClipboard
61 EnumClipboardFormats
62 EnumSystemLocalesA
63 GetACP
64 GetCPIInfo
65 GetComputerNameW
66 GetCurrentProcess
67 GetCurrentProcessId
68 GetCurrentThread
69 GetCurrentThreadId
70 GetDateFormatA
71 GetDateFormatW
72 GetDialogBaseUnits
73 GetDoubleClickTime
74 GetLastError
75 GetLocalTime
76 GetLocaleInfoA
77 GetLocaleInfoW
78 GetOEMCP
79 GetSysColor
80 GetSysColorBrush
81 GetSystemDefaultLCID
82 GetSystemDefaultLangID
83 GetSystemDirectoryA
84 GetSystemInfo
85 GetSystemMetrics
86 GetSystemTime
87 GetTickCount
88 GetTimeFormatA
89 GetTimeFormatW
90 GetTimeZoneInformation
91 GetUserDefaultLCID
92 GetUserDefaultLangID
93 GetUserNameA
94 GetUserNameW
95 GetVersion
96 GetVersionExA
97 GetWindowsDirectoryA
98 GetWindowsDirectoryW
99 GlobalMemoryStatus
100 IsValidCodePage
101 IsValidLocale

```

```

1 OemToCharA
2 QueryPerformanceCounter
3 QueryPerformanceFrequency
4 RaiseException
5 RegisterWindowMessageA
6 SetErrorMode
7 SetLastError
8 SetLocalTime
9 SystemParametersInfoA
10 IWin32Utility
11 MulDiv
12
13 Window
14
15 IWin32Accel
16 CopyAcceleratorTableA
17 TranslateAcceleratorA
18
19 IWin32AccelFactory
20 LoadAcceleratorsA
21
22 IWin32Dialog : IWin32Window ←
23 IWin32DialogState
24 ChooseColorA
25 DialogBoxParamA
26 DialogBoxParamW
27 EndDialog
28 MapDialogRect
29 SendDlgItemMessageA
30
31 IWin32DialogFactory
32 CreateDialogIndirectParamA
33 CreateDialogParamA
34 DialogBoxIndirectParamA
35
36 IWin32DialogState
37 CheckDlgButton
38 GetDlgCtrlID
39 GetDlgItem
40 GetDlgItemInt
41 GetDlgItemTextA
42 GetNextDlgGroupItem
43 GetNextDlgTabItem
44 IsDlgButtonChecked
45 SetDlgItemInt
46 SetDlgItemTextA
47
48 IWin32Menu ← IWin32MenuState
49 DeleteMenu
50 DestroyMenu
51 InsertMenuA
52 InsertMenuW
53 IsMenu
54 ModifyMenuA
55 RemoveMenu
56 TrackPopupMenu
57
58 IWin32MenuFactory
59 CreatePopupMenu
60
61 IWin32MenuState
62 AppendMenuA
63
64 AppendMenuW
65 ArrangeIconicWindows
66 BringWindowToTop
67 CheckMenuItem
68 CheckMenuRadioItem
69 CheckRadioButton
70 EnableMenuItem
71 GetMenuItemCount
72 GetMenuItemID
73 GetMenuItemRect
74 GetMenuState
75 GetMenuItemStringA
76 GetSubMenu
77 HiliteMenuItem
78 SetMenuItemDefaultItem
79 SetMenuItemBitmaps
80
81 IWin32Window←
82 IWin32WindowProperties,
83 IWin32WindowState
84 BeginPaint
85 CallWindowProcA
86 CallWindowProcW
87 ChildWindowFromPoint
88 ChildWindowFromPointEx
89 ClientToScreen
90 CloseWindow
91 CreateCaret
92 DefFrameProcA
93 DefMDIChildProcA
94 DefWindowProcA
95 DefWindowProcW
96 DestroyWindow
97 DlgDirListA
98 DlgDirListComboBoxA
99 DlgDirSelectComboBoxExA
100 DlgDirSelectExA
101 DrawAnimatedRects
102 DrawMenuBar
103 EndPaint
104 EnumChildWindows
105 EnumWindows
106 FindWindow
107 FlashWindow
108 MapWindowPoints
109 MessageBoxA
110 MessageBoxW
111 MoveWindow
112 OpenClipboard
113 OpenIcon
114 PeekMessageA
115 PeekMessageW
116 PostMessageA
117 PostMessageW
118 RedrawWindow

```

```

1 ScreenToClient
2 ScrollWindow
3 ScrollWindowEx
4 SendMessageA
5 SendMessageW
6 SendNotifyMessageA
7 TranslateMDISysAccel
8 UpdateWindow
9
IWin32WindowFactory
10 CreateWindowExA
11 CreateWindowExW
12
IWin32WindowProperties
13 DragAcceptFiles
14 GetClassLongA
15 GetClassNameA
16 GetClassNameW
17 GetPropA
18 GetPropW
19 RemovePropA
20 RemovePropW
21 SetClassLongA
22 SetPropA
23 SetPropW
24
IWin32WindowState
25 EnableScrollBar
1 EnableWindow
2 GetClientRect
3 GetDC
4 GetDCEx
5 GetLastActivePopup
6 GetMenu
7 GetParent
8 GetScrollInfo
9 GetScrollPos
10 GetScrollRange
11 GetSystemMenu
12 GetTopWindow
13 GetUpdateRect
14 GetUpdateRgn
15 GetWindow
16 GetWindowDC
17 GetWindowLongA
18 GetWindowLongW
19 GetWindowPlacement
20 GetWindowRect
21 GetWindowRgn
22 GetWindowTextA
23 GetWindowTextLengthA
24 GetWindowTextW
25 GetWindowThreadProcessId
1 HideCaret
2 InvalidateRect
3 InvalidateRgn
4 IsWindowEnabled
5
6 IsChild
7 IsIconic
8 IsWindow
9 IsWindowUnicode
10 IsWindowVisible
11 IsZoomed
12 LockWindowUpdate
13 SetActiveWindow
14 SetClipboardViewer
15 SetFocus
16 SetForegroundWindow
17 SetMenu
18 SetParent
19 SetScrollInfo
20 SetScrollPos
21 SetScrollRange
22 SetWindowLongA
23 SetWindowLongW
24 SetWindowPlacement
25 SetWindowPos
1 SetWindowRgn
2 SetWindowTextA
3 SetWindowTextW
4 ShowCaret
5 ShowOwnedPopups
6 ShowScrollBar
7 ShowWindow
8 ValidateRect
9 ValidateRgn
10
IWin32WindowUtility
11 AdjustWindowRect
12 AdjustWindowRectEx
13 EnumWindows
14 FindWindowA
15 GetActiveWindow
16 GetCapture
17 GetCaretPos
18 GetClassInfoA
19 GetClassInfoExA
20 GetClassInfoW
21 GetDesktopWindow
22 GetFocus
23 GetForegroundWindow
24 InSendMessage
25 IsDialogMessageA
1 RegisterClassA
2 RegisterClassExA
3 RegisterClass

```

1 Although the invention has been described in language specific to structural
2 features and/or methodological steps, it is to be understood that the invention
3 defined in the appended claims is not necessarily limited to the specific features or
4 steps described. Rather, the specific features and steps are disclosed as preferred
5 forms of implementing the claimed invention.

1 **CLAIMS**

- 2 1. A method of factoring operating system functions comprising:
3 defining criteria that governs how functions of an operating system are to
4 be factored into one or more groups;
5 factoring the functions into one or more groups based upon the criteria; and
6 associating groups of functions with programming objects that have data
7 and methods, wherein the methods correspond to the operating system functions.
- 8
- 9 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the programming objects have
10 interfaces through which the methods can be accessed.
- 11
- 12 3. The method of claim 1, wherein the programming objects comprise
13 COM objects.
- 14
- 15 4. The method of claim 1, wherein said factoring comprises creating a
16 hierarchy of object interfaces in which certain interfaces can inherit from other
17 interfaces.
- 18
- 19 5. The method of claim 1, wherein said factoring comprises creating a
20 hierarchy of object interfaces in which certain interfaces can aggregate with other
21 interfaces.
- 22
- 23 6. The method of claim 1 further comprising instantiating a plurality of
24 programming objects across a process boundary.
- 25

1 7. The method of claim 1, further comprising instantiating a plurality of
2 programming objects across a machine boundary.

3
4 8. The method of claim 1, wherein the criteria is based, at least in part,
5 on the manner in which particular functions behave.

6
7 9. The method of claim 8, wherein the manner includes a consideration
8 of the types of operating system resources that are associated with the operation of
9 a function.

10
11 10. The method of claim 8, wherein the manner includes a consideration
12 of whether a particular function creates an operating system resource.

13
14 11. The method of claim 8, wherein the manner includes a consideration
15 of whether a particular function operates upon an operating system resource.

16
17 12. The method of claim 1, wherein the criteria is based, at least in part,
18 on the manner in which particular functions behave, wherein the manner includes:

19 a consideration of the types of operating system resources that are
20 associated with the operation of a function; and

21 a consideration of whether a particular function creates an operating system
22 resource.

1 **13.** The method of claim 1, wherein the criteria is based, at least in part,
2 on the manner in which particular functions behave, wherein the manner includes:

3 a consideration of the types of operating system resources that are
4 associated with the operation of a function call; and

5 a consideration of whether a particular function operates upon a given
6 operating system resource.

7
8 **14.** A method of factoring operating system functions comprising:

9 factoring a plurality of operating system functions that are used in
10 connection with operating system resources into first groups based upon first
11 criteria;

12 factoring the first groups into individual sub-groups based upon second
13 criteria; and

14 assigning each sub-group to its own programming object interface, wherein
15 a programming object interface represents a particular object's implementation of
16 its collective methods.

17
18 **15.** The method of claim 14, wherein the first criteria is based upon the
19 type of resource that is associated with an operation of a function.

20
21 **16.** The method of claim 14, wherein the second criteria is based upon
22 the nature of an operation of a function on a particular resource.

1 **17.** The method of claim 16, wherein said nature concerns whether a
2 function creates a resource.

3

4 **18.** The method of claim 16, wherein said nature concerns whether a
5 function does not create a resource.

6

7 **19.** The method of claim 14, wherein the first criteria is based upon the
8 type of resource that is associated with an operation of a function, and the second
9 criteria is based upon the nature of an operation of a function on a particular
10 resource.

11

12 **20.** The method of claim 14, wherein at least one interface inherits from
13 another interface.

14

15 **21.** The method of claim 14, wherein at least one interface aggregates
16 with another interface.

17

18 **22.** The method of claim 14 further comprising instantiating a plurality
19 of programming objects across a process boundary.

20

21 **23.** The method of claim 14 further comprising instantiating a plurality
22 of programming objects across a process boundary and a machine boundary.

1 **24.** A method of factoring operating system functions comprising:
2 factoring a plurality of operating system functions into interface groups
3 based upon the resources with which a function is associated;
4 factoring the interface groups into interface sub-groups based upon each
5 function's use a handle that represents a resource; and
6 organizing the interface sub-groups so that at least one of the interface sub-
7 groups inherits from at least one other of the interface sub-groups.

8

9 **25.** The method of claim 24, wherein said organizing comprises
10 aggregating at least one of the interface sub-groups.

11

12 **26.** The method of claim 24, wherein the interface sub-groups are
13 associated with COM objects.

14

15 **27.** The method of claim 24, wherein the factoring of the interface
16 groups into interface sub-groups comprises considering whether a function creates
17 a handle.

1 **28.** The method of claim 24, wherein said organizing comprises
2 aggregating at least one of the interface sub-groups, and wherein the factoring of
3 the interface groups into interface sub-groups comprises considering whether a
4 function call creates a handle.

5

6 **29.** An operating system application program interface embodied on a
7 computer-readable medium comprising a plurality of object interfaces, wherein
8 each object interface includes one or more methods that are associated with and
9 can call functions of an operating system that does not comprise the object
10 interfaces.

11

12 **30.** The operating system application program interface of claim 29,
13 wherein the object interfaces are arranged in groups in accordance with the types
14 of objects with which their operation is associated.

15

16 **31.** The operating system application program interface of claim 29,
17 wherein the methods within some of the interfaces are arranged in accordance with
18 whether they create an object.

19

20 **32.** The operating system application program interface of claim 29,
21 wherein the methods within some of the interfaces are arranged in accordance with
22 whether they do not create an object.

1 **33.** The operating system application program interface of claim 29,
2 wherein the methods within some of the interfaces are arranged in accordance with
3 whether they operate upon an object.
4

5 **34.** The operating system application program interface of claim 29,
6 wherein at least some of the object interfaces are arranged so that they inherit from
7 other of the object interfaces.
8

9 **35.** The operating system application program interface of claim 29,
10 wherein at least some of the object interfaces are arranged so that they aggregate
11 with other of the object interfaces.
12

13 **36.** An operating system comprising:
14 a plurality of programming objects having interfaces, wherein the
15 programming objects represent operating system resources, and wherein the
16 interfaces define methods that are organized in accordance with whether they
17 create an operating system resource or not;
18

19 wherein the programming objects are configured to be called either directly
or indirectly by an application; and
20

21 wherein the methods are configured to call operating system functions
responsive to being called directly or indirectly by an application.
22

23 **37.** The operating system of claim 36, wherein some of the objects are
24 disposed across at least one process boundary.
25

1 **38.** The operating system claim 36, wherein some of the objects are
2 disposed across at least one machine boundary.

3
4 **39.** The operating system application program interface of claim 36,
5 wherein at least some of the objects are disposed across at least one process
6 boundary and at least one machine boundary.

7
8 **40.** The operating system application program interface of claim 36,
9 wherein the objects comprise COM objects.

10
11 **41.** A method of converting an operating system from a non-object-
12 oriented format to an object oriented format, wherein the operating system
13 includes a plurality of operating system functions that are callable to create or use
14 operating system resources, the method comprising:

15 defining a plurality of programming object interfaces that define methods
16 that correspond to the operating system functions, wherein programming objects
17 that support the interfaces are callable either directly or indirectly by an
18 application;

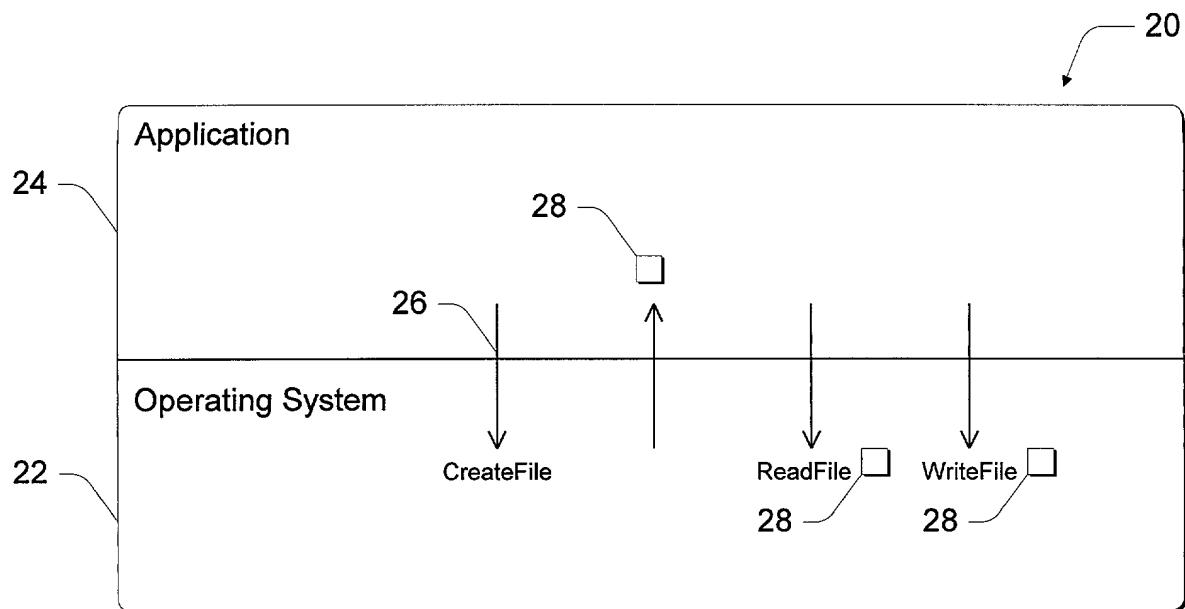
19 calling a programming object interface; and

20 responsive to said calling, calling an operating system function with a
21 method of the programming object that supports said programming object
22 interface.

1 **ABSTRACT**

2 Methods of factoring operating system functions into one or more groups of
3 functions are described. Factorization permits operating systems that are not
4 configured to support computing in an object-oriented environment to be used in
5 an object oriented environment. This promotes distributed computing by enabling
6 operating system resources to be instantiated and used across process and machine
7 boundaries. In one embodiment, criteria are defined that govern how functions of
8 an operating system are to be factored into one or more groups. Based on the
9 defined criteria, the functions are factors into groups and groups of functions are
10 then associated with programming objects that have data and methods, wherein the
11 methods correspond to the operating system functions. Applications can call
12 methods on the programming objects either directly or indirectly that, in turn, call
13 operating system functions.

14
15
16
17
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25



*Fig. 1
Prior Art*

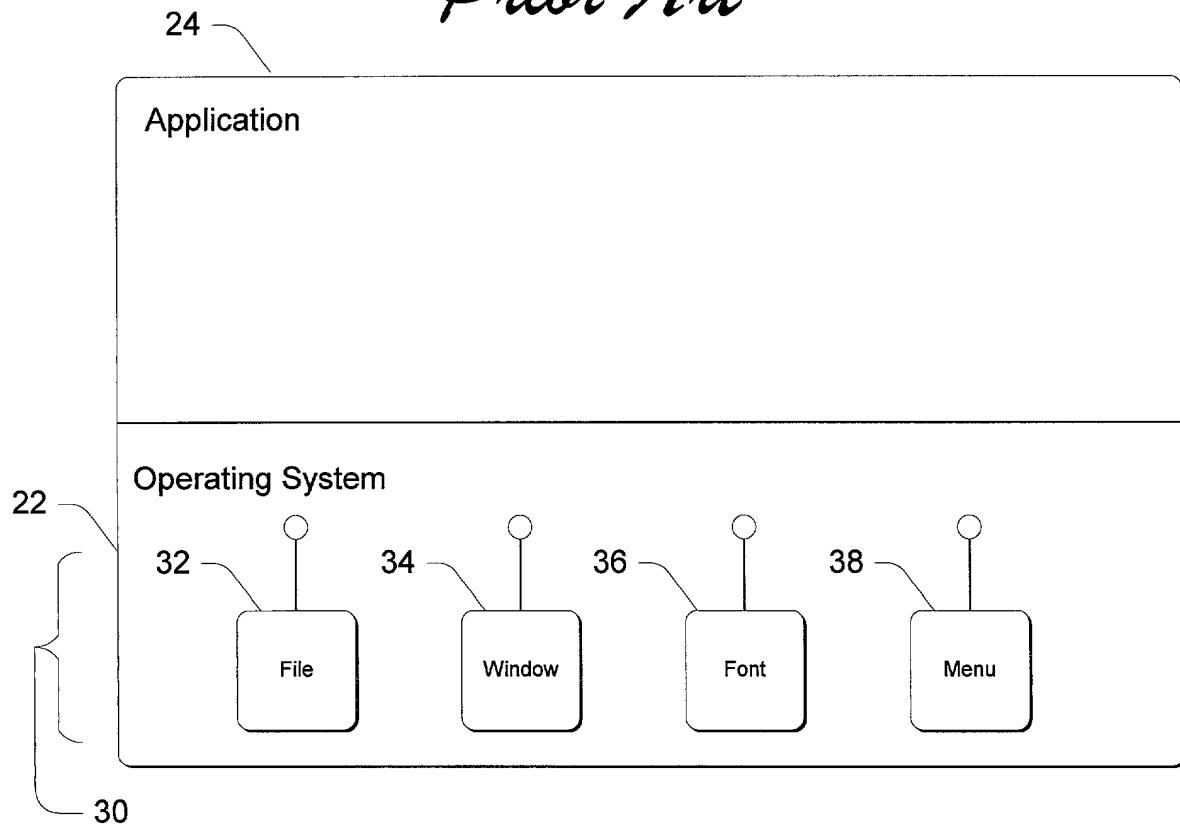
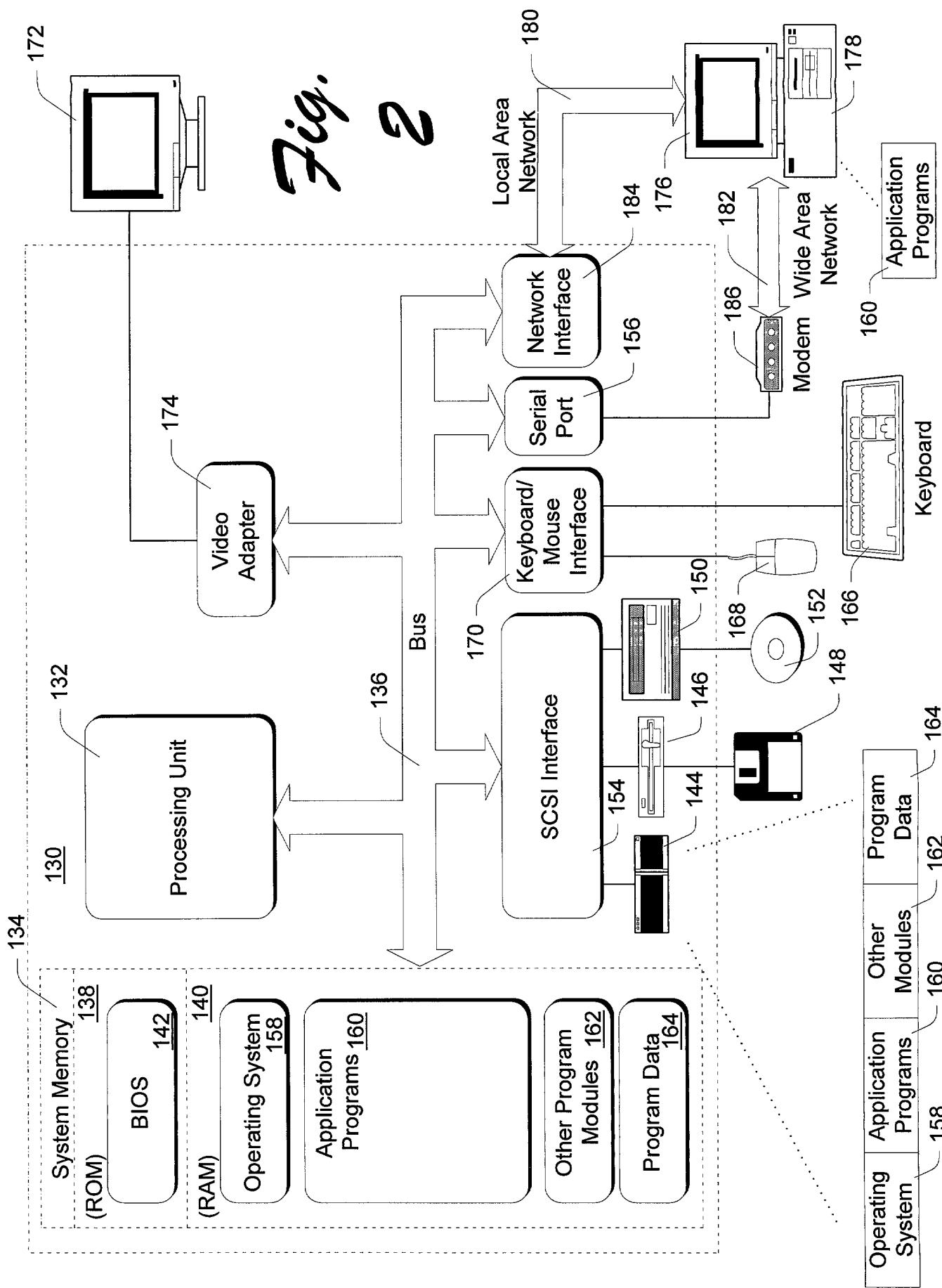
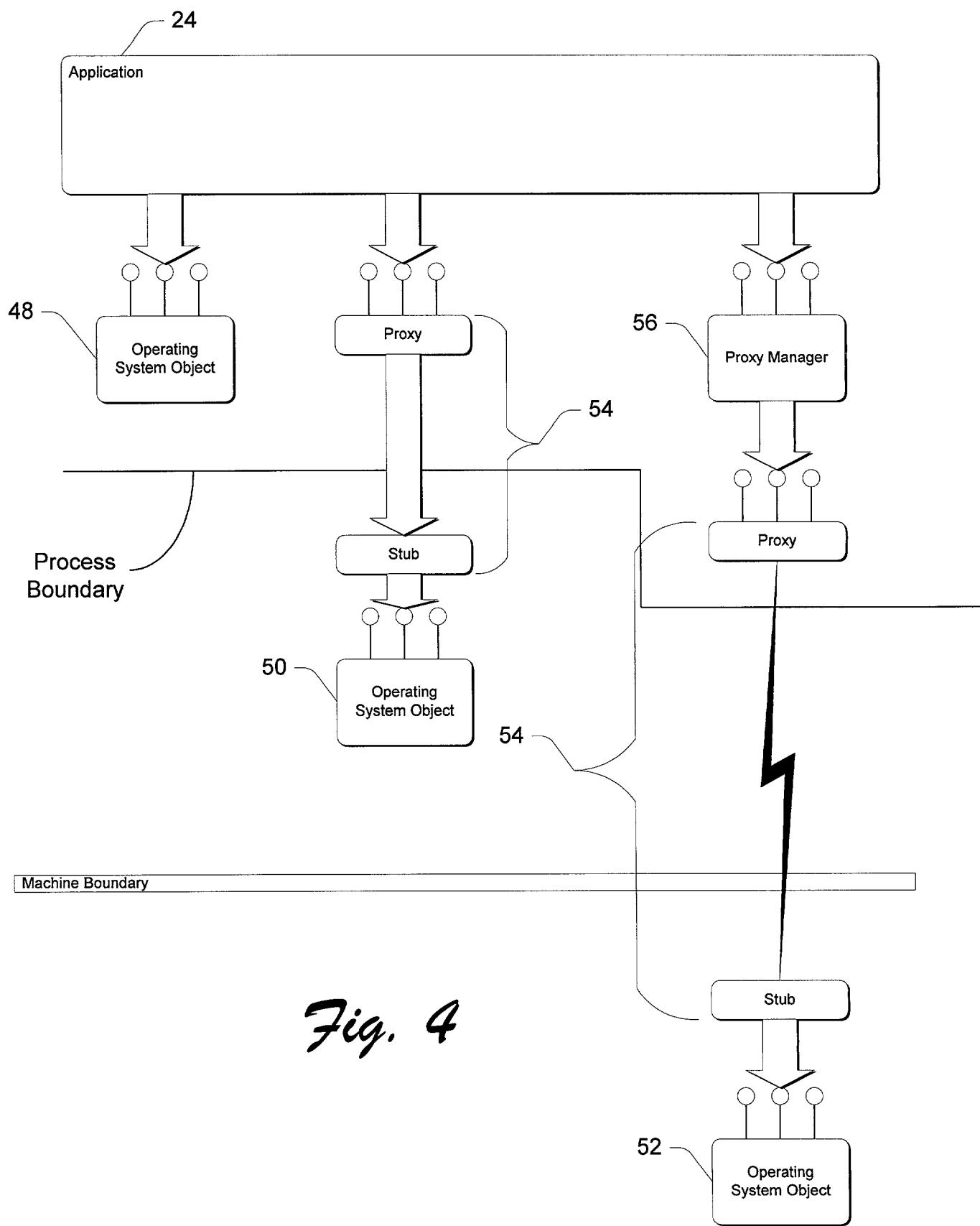
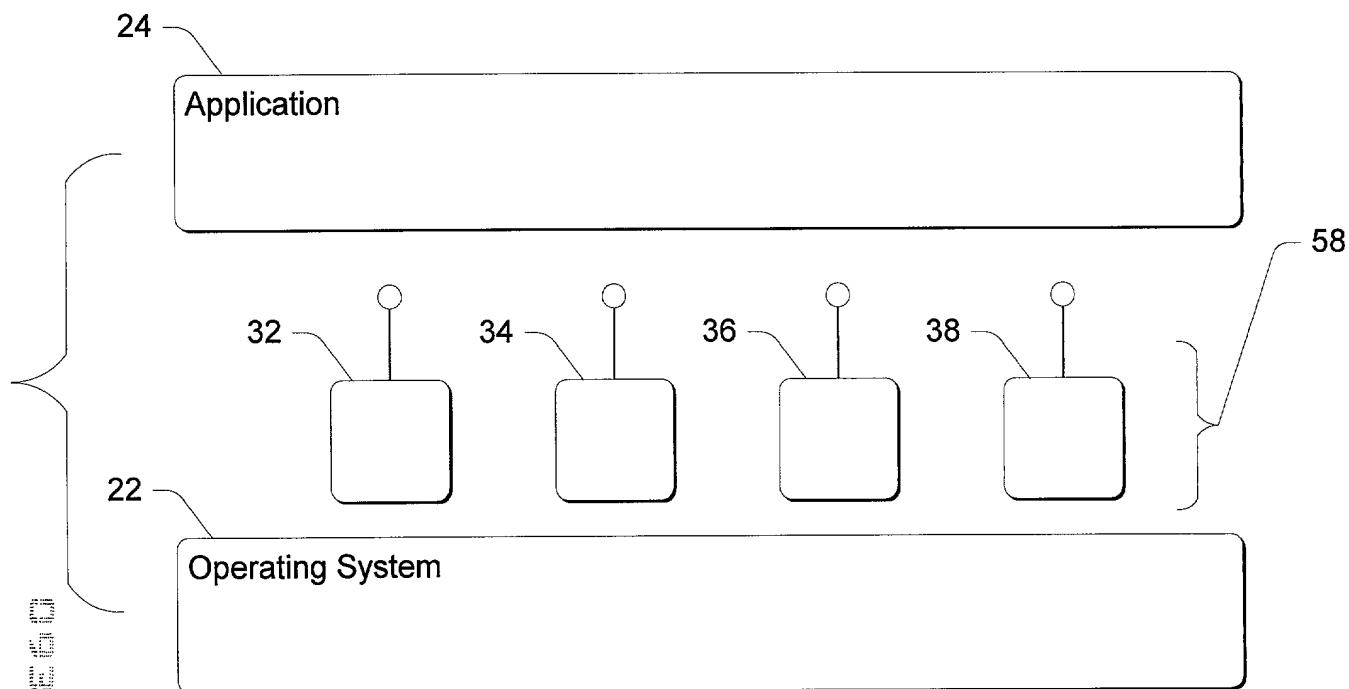
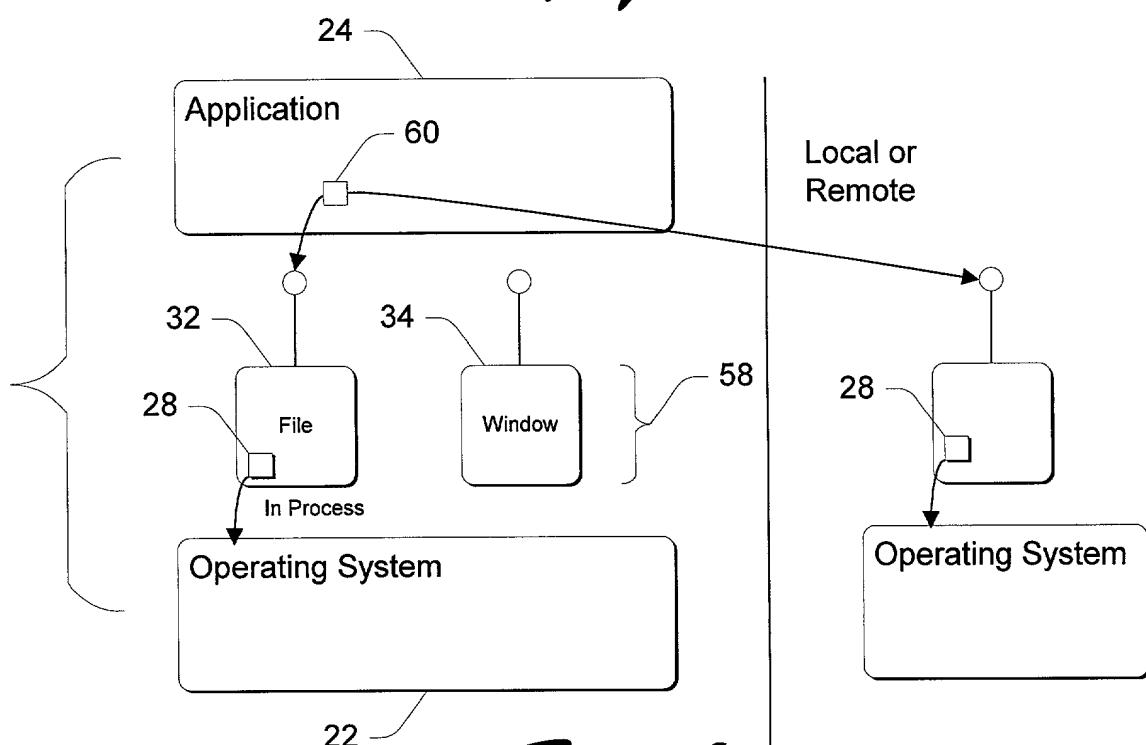
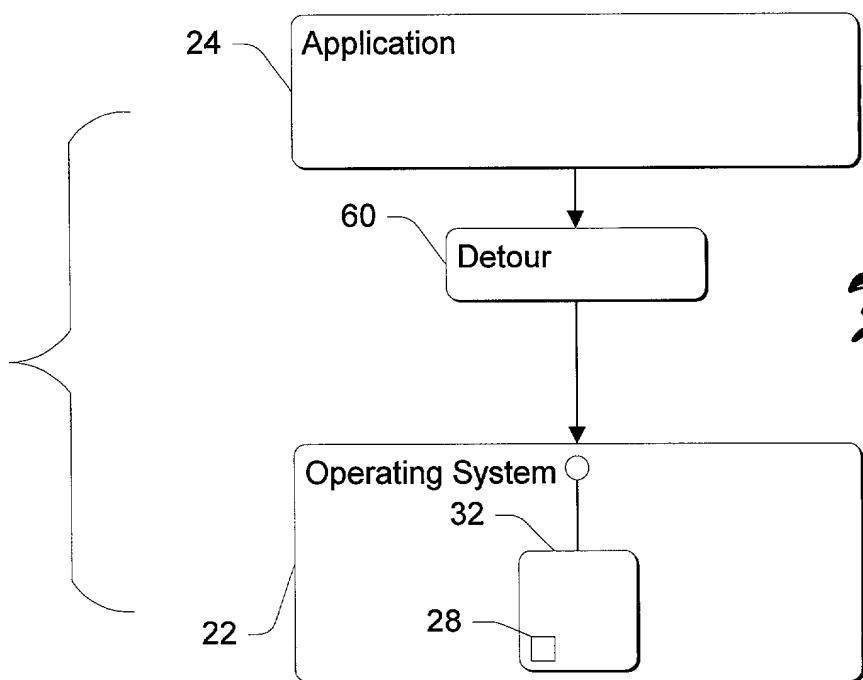
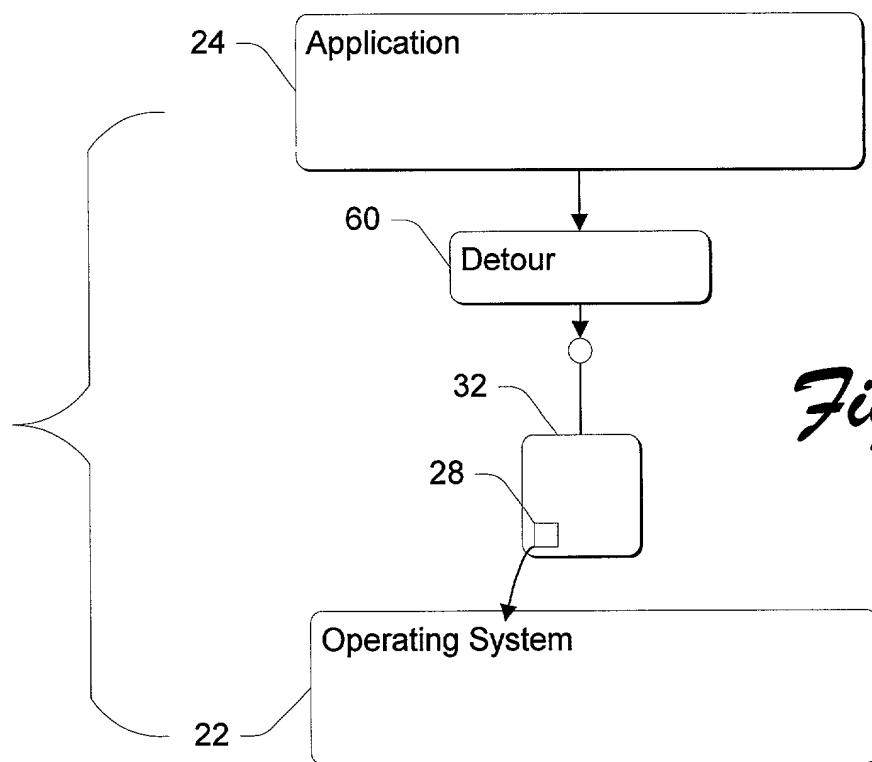


Fig. 3





*Fig. 5**Fig. 6*



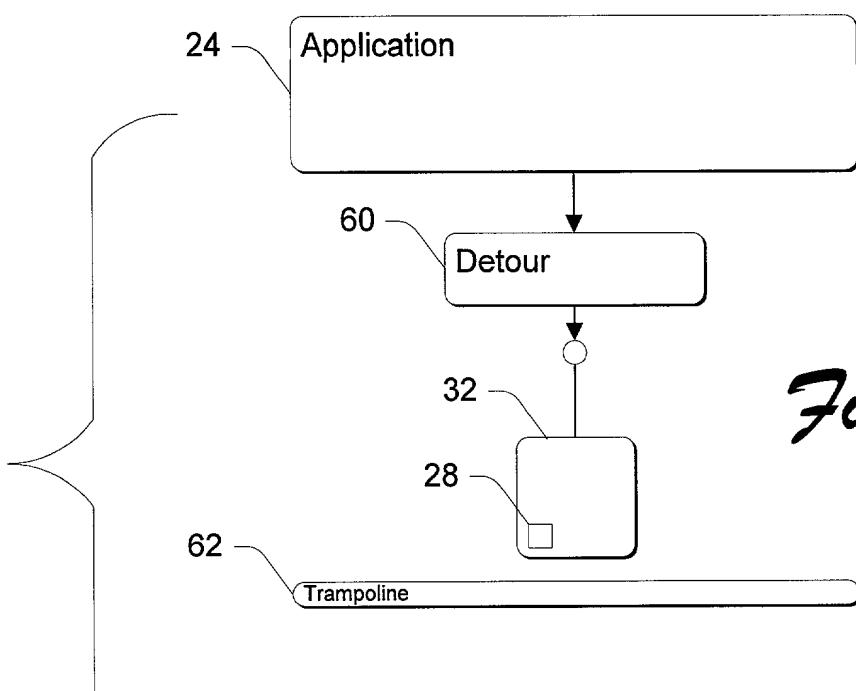


Fig. 9

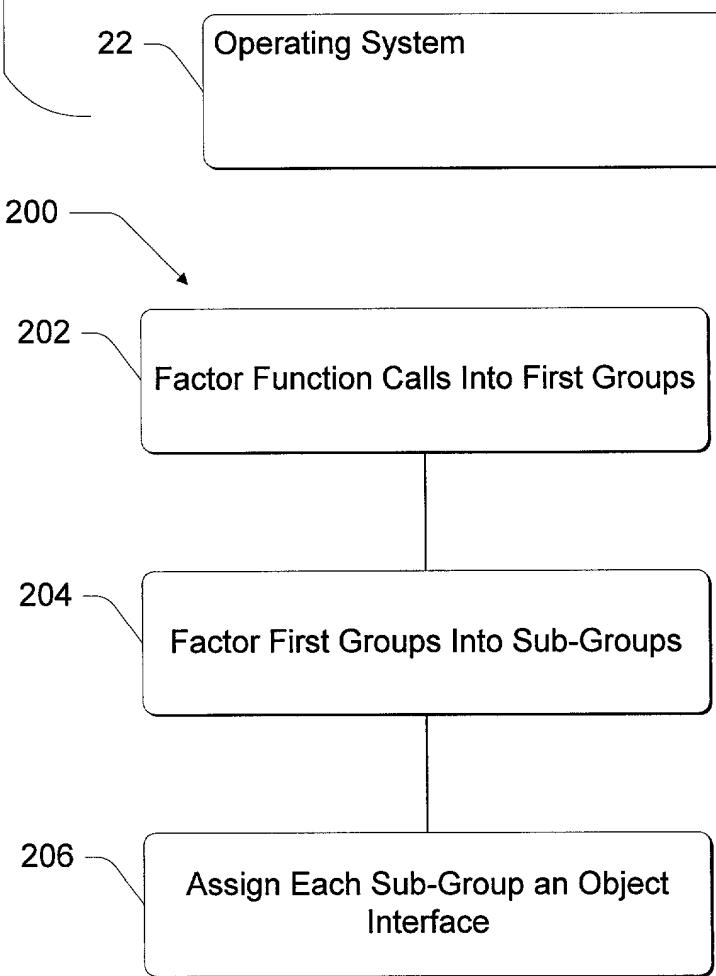


Fig. 10

MS1-354US

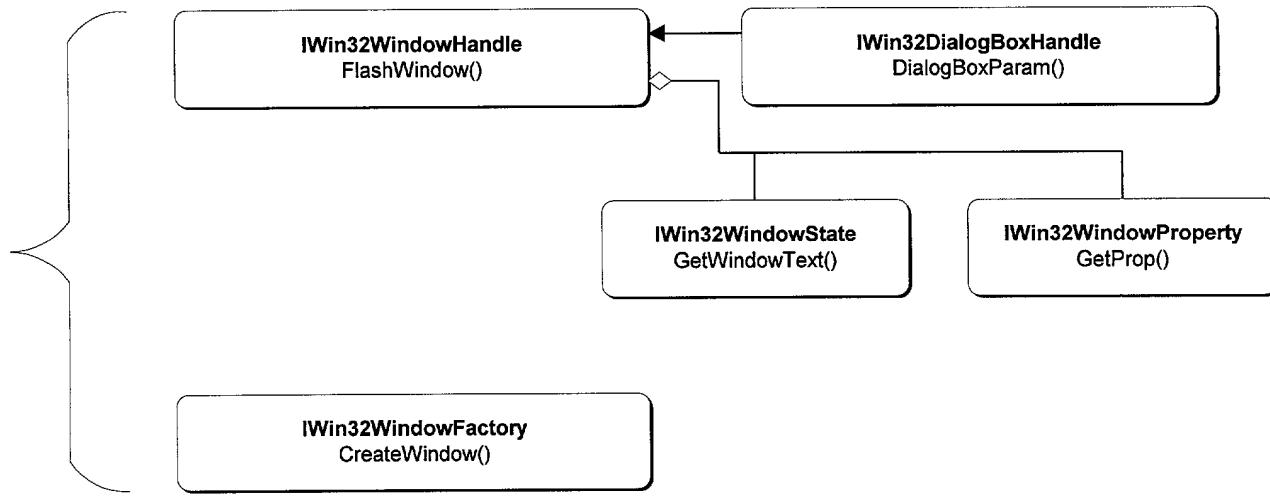


Fig. 11

MS1-354US

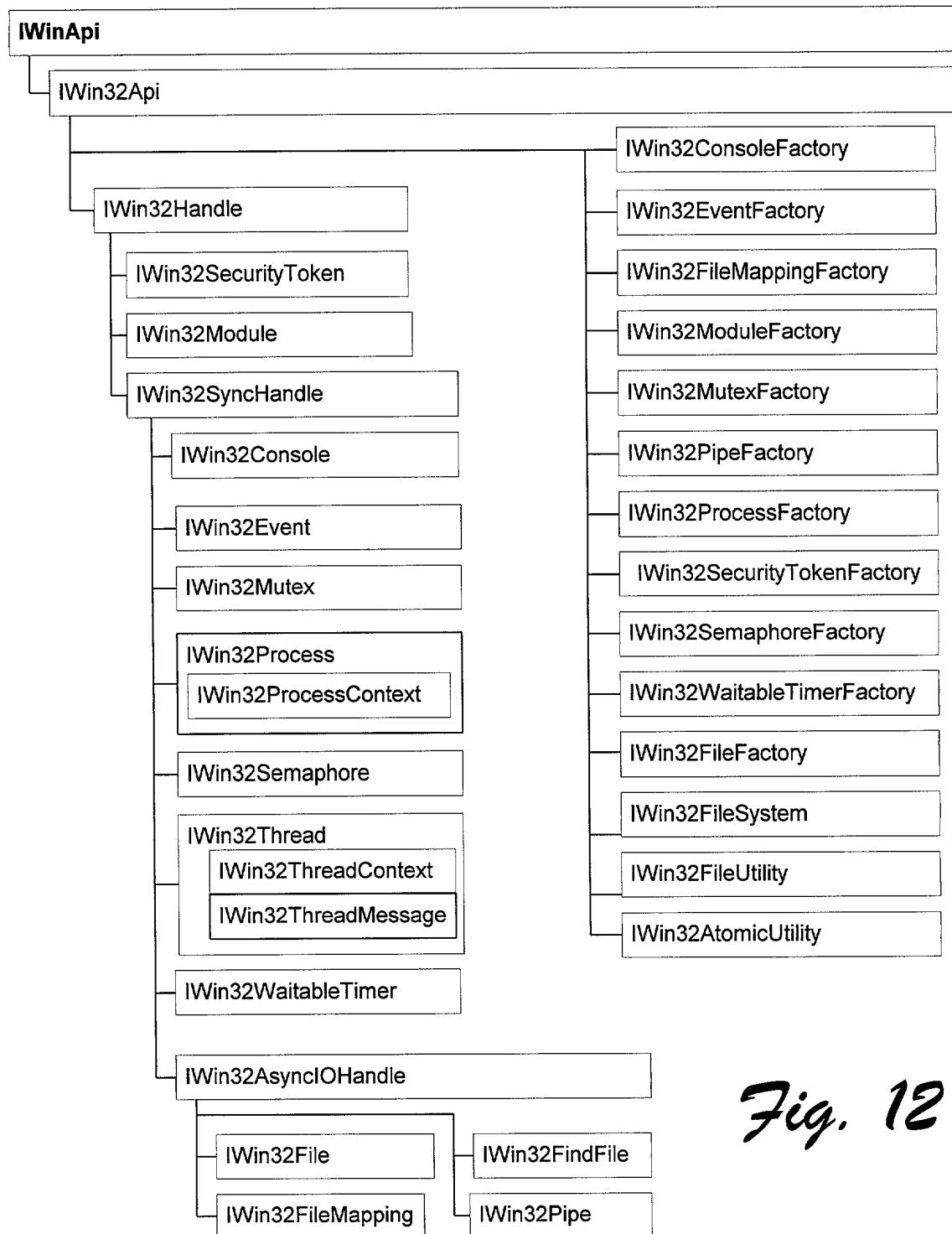


Fig. 12

MS1-354US



Fig. 13

MS1-354US



Fig. 14

MS1-354US

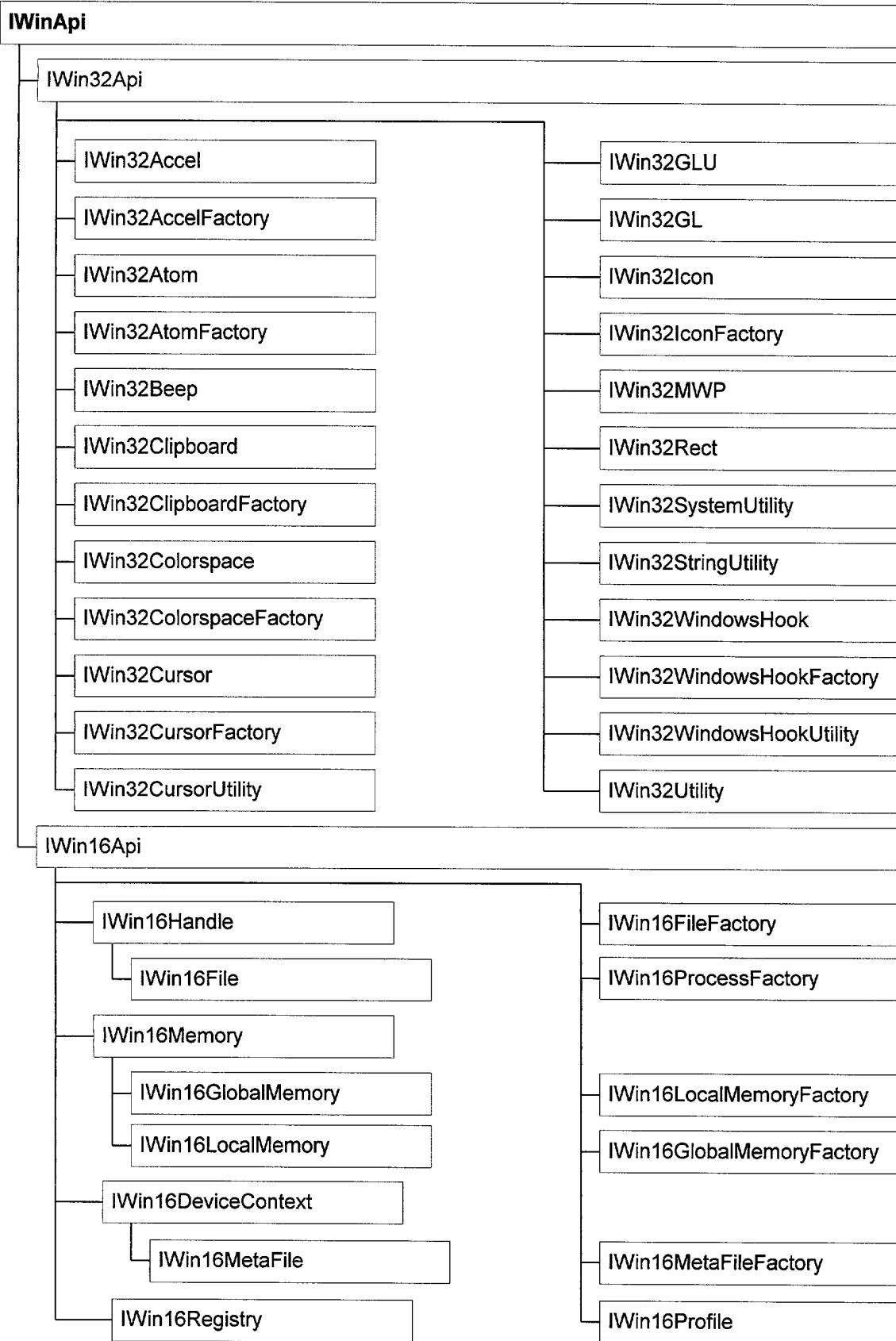


Fig. 15